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SPAIN AND CHILI.

No sooner has something like a peaceful state of things been established in North America than nearly the whole of South America is agitated by wars and rumours of wars. All sorts of troubles are brewing in Mexico, where, according to the latest news, the Imperial troops are retiring to the cities and giving up the country to the supporters of the National or Republican party. Maximilian has nothing to depend upon but the good-will of the Emperor of the French, who, hitherto, has supplied him with men, money, and all that he considered necessary for the maintenance of a young empire by no means self-sustaining, and surrounded by difficulties of every kind. If the Emperor Napoleon should come to the conclusion—as he may do from one day to another—that the Mexican speculation is a bad one, and that it would be folly to persist in carrying it out, then Maximilian will have nothing to do but to return to Austria, where he will be reproached with having accepted an inferior position at the hands of the great “chief of the European revolution,” as Napoleon III. is called by the reactionists both of Vienna and of Rome. The unfortunate Maximilian may also find himself called upon to settle accounts with the Government of the United States, which has evidently no intention of rendering his position more agreeable than it is already. In any case, his affairs are in a critical condition; and, although this state of crisis seems natural to Mexico, it involves danger all the same. The country may be invaded by American troops, or it may be distracted by the civil war which has been officially declared to be at an end, but which seems now to have recommenced in earnest, and to be growing more and more serious every day. Finally, in the absence of war, civil or foreign, the Mexican empire, left entirely to itself, may collapse for financial reasons; but it seems highly probable that the fall of Maximilian will be accelerated by events from without.

Farther south we find a war going on between Brazil and Paraguay, as to the origin and meaning of which few people in England seem to be well informed. It is known, however, that Paraguay began the fighting, and that Brazil was deliberately invaded by Lopez, the Paraguayan dictator. A sort of border warfare had long been going on between the Paraguayans and the Brazilians; but

punishing Paraguay as a State, and Lopez personally. Lopez's invasion, besides being unprovoked, is said to have been marked by excesses of all kinds; and it is for his cruelty and the general piratical character of his acts that he is now threatened with the vengeance of his neighbours.

The impending and seemingly inevitable war between Spain and Chili is, however, one which, if it does break out, will

concern us much more than any amount of fighting that is likely to take place between Mexico and the United States, or between Paraguay on the one hand and Brazil, Uruguay, and the Argentine Republic on the other. If, in this case, the cause of quarrel is not clearly understood, our ignorance does not arise from want, but rather from excess, of information on the subject. M. Bermudez de Castro has written a despatch to justify the conduct of his Government towards Chili, in which the grievances of Spain are set forth at most alarming length. This Minister gained considerable reputation a month or two ago by his clever reply to the species of protest which Count Mensdorff, the Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, addressed to him on the occasion of Spain notifying her recognition of the kingdom of Italy. We hope M. Bermudez de Castro has not been unduly puffed up by his success as a despatch-writer; but in his circular on the Hispano-Chilian question he appears to have over-excited himself, and, in his attempt to convict Chili of all sorts of offences, only succeeds in proving very little against her. It appears certain, however, that when Spain and Peru were at loggerheads the



“THE ORPHANS.”—(FROM A PICTURE BY DE JOUCHE.)

the attack directed by Lopez was of a serious character, and Brazil is now putting forth all her strength with the view of giving her unruly neighbour, once for all, a severe lesson. Brazilian territory has been cleared of the invaders, and Brazil has formed an alliance with the Uruguayans and Argentines, not merely for the purpose of keeping off the Paraguayan troops, but with the object of

Chilians sympathised with the latter Power; and they are accused of having given it assistance by declaring coal to be contraband of war. In M. de Castro's opinion, the Chilian Government took this new and peculiar view of coal for the express purpose of inconveniencing Spain. It moreover allowed some of its subjects to enlist on board a Peruvian ship; but as this took place in time of peace we do not see

that any importance can be attached to it. Then, a Chilean journal has published articles against Spain, and has not been punished for it. There is a complaint, too, in M. de Castro's despatch of the conduct of a Chilean mob who insulted the Spanish flag more than a twelvemonth ago.

Now, it must be observed that all these little wrongs were compounded for on very easy terms last May. Explanations were given, regret was expressed, and M. Tavora, the representative of Spain in Chili, declared himself satisfied. All ground for quarrelling was now at an end, and this fact was brought formally beneath the notice of the Diplomatic Body. However, a change of Ministry took place at Madrid, and Marshal O'Donnell, on his accession to office, ignored all that had been done by M. Tavora in connection with Chilean affairs. He sent out an Admiral who had instructions to demand that the Spanish flag should be saluted, and that a paper should be drawn up and signed by the Chilean Ministry admitting that Spain had throughout been in the right, and therefore, by implication, that the attitude maintained by Chili had been unjustifiable. Admiral Pareja appears, moreover, to have made his demands in a very offensive manner; and it was noticed that he selected the anniversary of the declaration of Chilean independence as an appropriate day on which to inform Chili that she must submit to the humiliating terms proposed by Spain.

The chief interest of England in connection with this dispute lies in our extensive commercial relations with the weaker of the two parties. Our trade with Chili is immense, and although this would give us no valid plea for interfering on behalf of the Chileans were the Chileans in the wrong, it would, as the case actually stands, justify us in making their cause to some extent our own.

"THE ORPHANS."

THIS picture, which is executed with all the finished perfection that is characteristic of the artist, is a very good example of that modern French school which imparts a sort of semi-picturesque appearance to a scene that might be better treated by the adoption of a more simple fashion. One cannot help being impressed with the sense of an incongruity in some of the details with the main object and intention of the story that the painter sets himself to tell; and, if we may be pardoned the expression, there is too much of the fashion-plate of sorrow about the composition of the figures to leave us free from the suspicion that the grief itself is quite so deep and genuine as the occasion would seem to demand. The pose is so perfect that it might have been arranged by an accomplished photographer, and the very expression of the faces is toned down to the allowable demonstration of a conventional mourning. And yet this is a very beautiful picture; exquisite in the correct finish of the drawing, and in the charm of those two faces—that of the child especially having evidently been the result of patient, loving study of a type rarely seen in everyday life. This is, as it should be, the central object of interest in the whole composition; and, in spite of all the faults of conventionality, its subtle influence is sufficient to lead us to gaze on it until we have forgotten criticism.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

All Paris has been roused into a state of great excitement and indignation by the announcement that the Government intend to mutilate the Garden of the Luxembourg by driving a new street or boulevard through it, by which the beauty and privacy of the garden will be entirely destroyed. Another piece of vandalism is also rumoured. The *Gazette de France* says that the Garden of the Tuileries is doomed, and that the Rue Castiglione is to be prolonged right through it.

General Schofield, of General Sherman's Staff, having arrived in Paris, rumours have been current that he is intrusted with a mission on the subject of the withdrawal of the French troops from Mexico. This statement is positively contradicted, however.

ITALY.

Signor Mari, the Government candidate, has been elected President of the Chamber by a majority of votes, after two ballots between Signori Mari and Mordini.

It is officially announced that the Papal Government is under the necessity of concluding a new loan of 50,000,000 lire, to be guaranteed upon ecclesiastical property.

The Neapolitan brigands who have been surrounded by Papal troops have asked to be allowed to surrender without any rigorous conditions. It is asserted that they support this demand by producing a document showing that the Papal Government had, to a certain extent, connived with them. The number of this band of brigands is 350, all armed with revolvers.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor of Austria finds his difficulties increase. The majority of the Diets of the empire object most strongly to the September Patent, and urge its revocation. Probably, however, the Emperor will persevere in the course he has taken until he has visited Pesth.

SWEDEN.

Sweden is in the throes of a great Constitutional crisis. A reform bill has been submitted to the various Houses of Parliament. In the Chamber of Peasants it was voted by acclamation. The Chamber of Citizens adopted it by sixty votes to five. The clergy postponed its consideration until after the House of Nobles had decided upon the bill. The nobles have not concluded their debates, but the probability is that they, too, will adopt the reform.

GREECE.

The Chamber has abolished the Council of State by a large majority. The Minister of the Interior has tendered his resignation. Count Sponeck has left Athens.

SPAIN AND CHILI.

The Spanish Minister of Marine has forwarded the most urgent orders to the governors of the arsenals and maritime departments to expedite as much as possible the completion of the war-vessels now building and the preparation of others for active service.

Three steam-frigates, including the *Tetuan*, and two transports are expected to leave Cadix shortly. On the latter will embark the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd battalions of Marine Infantry, numbering in all 2400 men.

The semi-official *Correspondencia de Espana*, replying to the assertions of some journals that the Spanish Government had given orders to Admiral Pareja to suspend any attack upon the Chilean ports, says:—"We can most positively state that no such orders have been given. Admiral Pareja will act as circumstances and as the honour of the Spanish flag may require." The same authority also says, in answer to the attacks made by some newspapers upon the course adopted towards Chili:—"Spain has done nothing to justify the conduct of Chili. The instructions held by Admiral Pareja are the same as those he received from the Narvaez Cabinet. The only object of the present Ministry, as we believe was that of their predecessors, is not to permit Spain to be humiliated in America, where there are so many reasons that she should be respected."

Letters from Chili state that the Spaniards resident in that republic have retired into the interior of the country, in order to avoid the violence to which they might possibly be subjected. The Numancia was still lying off the Chinchas, and Admiral Pareja continued to take prizes at sea.

The following note, dated Oct. 12, was addressed by Admiral Pareja to the British Minister in Chili on the question of the bombardment of Valparaiso:—

Frigate Villa de Madrid, Valparaiso, Oct. 12.
Sir,—The official letter which your Excellency has addressed to me, bearing date the 7th inst., acknowledges receipt from the commander of the *Mutine* of a copy of my letter of the 2nd inst. replying to a previous communication from that officer. Your Excellency proceeds to state that you do not consider the forces under my command are justified in bombarding Valparaiso, on account of the greater part of the property in the city being owned by foreigners and most of the merchandise stored in the customs' warehouses belonging to English subjects.

I beg to state, in reply, that during the course of hostilities between Spain and Chili I shall only execute what may be ordered by my Government; and, as the object of these hostilities is to inflict upon Chili the greatest possible damage, in order to compel her to satisfy the honour of Spain, it is to be feared that, if the Government of her Catholic Majesty does not obtain this satisfaction by means of the blockade, it may direct me to proceed to another class of hostilities, which, as is natural, will probably be directed against all that appertains to the Government of the Republic, agreeably to the right of war. None, as your Excellency is aware, can or ought to obstruct the exercise of this right, always provided that the belligerents grant to neutrals a convenient time during which, by withdrawing their property from the edifices which may be attacked under that right, they may suffer no detriment.

I speak hypothetically, but the hypothesis is one that may become a reality, since it falls within the natural sphere of belligerent rights—rights which, if on the one hand they should not be exercised in such a manner as to prejudice neutral interests, neither can they, on the other, be waived, if neutrals, due notice having been previously given, neglect to take the necessary measures to protect themselves against loss, and thus embarrass the action of the belligerents.

I repeat that I speak hypothetically. My only mission being to execute the orders of my Government, it is possible, as I have said above, that later these orders may direct me to commence hostilities against all that belongs to Chili. Thus, your Excellency will perceive that, setting aside the possibility of future arrangements, or those which may naturally arise in the course of a war, it is in the interest of all neutrals to take by precaution all those measures that may protect their interests.

From what I have said I trust your Excellency will understand that the present reply to your official communication of the 7th inst. is intended to call the attention of foreign commerce, in order that those engaged therein may in due time guarantee themselves from all loss in the hostilities between my country and Chili. I would further repeat to your Excellency what I have mentioned on several former occasions—that is, that these hostilities on the part of my Government are intended to compel Chili to give the satisfaction due to us, and that to obtain this I shall carry out all that my Government may deem necessary against all that appertains to the Republic.

THE UNITED STATES.

We have intelligence from New York to the 25th ult. The release of the *Shenandoah's* crew had caused some irritation in New York. The excitement, however, seems to have quickly died out, the *New York Times* admitting that the Federal Government has no ground for demanding the surrender of the crew, as the acceptance by the American Consul of the *Shenandoah* as a war-vessel cuts away all ground of complaint on the part of the American Government against the English Government for discharging the crew.

The Legislatures of Alabama and Louisiana were employed in making laws regulating the status of the blacks. Florida had abolished slavery, repudiated the Confederate debt, annulled the secession ordinance, and provided for receiving the testimony of coloured persons. The Mississippi Assembly had also passed a bill permitting negro testimony in certain cases. General Howard says the negroes and loyal whites in the south distrust their ability to maintain their rights without the pressure of the Federal troops. A national republican bill for the reorganisation of the south is to be presented to Congress.

The Radical Republicans, at a meeting in Dr. Cheever's church in New York, denounced President Johnson's reconstructive policy, and declared him to be the counsel for the rebel States and the upholder of the secession doctrine.

Mr. Schnyler Colfax, the prominent candidate for the speakership of the House of Representatives, had made a speech opposing the immediate admission of the Southern representatives to Congress.

General Weitzel had superseded General Steel in the command in Texas. Steel's removal was reported to have been caused by his being intimate with the Imperial officers along the Mexican frontier.

MEXICO.

The principal news from Mexico is that the Republicans have raised the siege of Matamoros in consequence of the Imperial forces marching from Monterey to attack their rear. In their retreat the Republicans were sadly cut up by the Imperialists. Reports of movements and skirmishing in various quarters are published in the American papers; but they are too sensational in their tone to be relied upon. The Emperor Maximilian, it is stated, was withdrawing his troops from outlying stations and concentrating them upon important strategic points.

The Matamoros papers announce that a conspiracy had been discovered, formed at Brownsville, to capture Matamoros and the forts and assassinate General Mejia. Two of the conspirators, formerly Confederate officers, had been captured and sentenced to be shot.

Intelligence, via San Francisco, announces that the Imperialists had shot Arteaga, Parapaches, Gomez, and Salazar, recently captured in Michoacan. General Alvarez had consequently proclaimed the life of every captured French or Imperial General to be forfeited.

AMERICAN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ENGLISH ADDRESSES OF CONDOLENCE.

THE subjoined despatch from Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams in reply to addresses of condolence on the death of the late President of the United States has been published:—

Department of State, Washington, Nov. 4.

Sir,—During the seasons of spring and summer which have now passed you transmitted to this department the manifold expressions which were made by the Government, public authorities, civic, ecclesiastical, and educational corporations and associations, as well as by public assemblies of citizens and by individual citizens of the realm, of their feelings of sympathy and condolence with the Government and people of the United States in the calamity which they had suffered in the lamented death of the late President Abraham Lincoln. The same proceedings spoke in one voice the language of indignant reprobation against the heinous political crime of assassination by which the eminently useful and honourable career of the late Chief Magistrate was so abruptly brought to a fearful, yet for him most triumphant, end.

Owing to some peculiar casualties, the efficiency of this department was impaired at the time these despatches were received. They obtained only a simple and formal acknowledgment from the presiding secretary, and no instructions were given you concerning the recognition of the papers alluded to by this Government. I have now to inform you that all the communications thus received were, without any delay, submitted to the President of the United States, and were read by him with profound emotions of sensibility and gratitude. It was his expectation that the parties from whom these generous and sympathetic utterances had come would be duly and properly assured of their consolatory influence, not only upon himself, but upon the whole American people. It is deeply regretted by this Government that this expectation of the President was found impracticable.

Our Government, simply constructed with adaptation to the transaction of necessary affairs in the ordinary course of administration, found itself in the condition of this department which then existed inadequate to the immediate acknowledgment of such various and vast obligations suddenly and unexpectedly incurred. The regret, however, is in some measure mitigated by the fact that these expressions of British sympathy and goodwill were only a part of similar manifestations of the same feelings which occurred in every part of the world. Nevertheless, the President earnestly desires that recognition shall even now be made of the sympathies and condolences which were thus poured in upon us with a profusion that did honour to human nature.

You will attempt to execute this purpose, so far as Great Britain is concerned, by giving to Earl Russell a copy of this despatch, and by promulgating it in England, either with or without accompanying references to the addresses, resolutions, letters, and other testimonials to which I have referred as shall be found practicable.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Charles Francis Adams, Esq., &c. WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

SIR HENRY FRANCIS HOWARD, Minister to Hanover, Brunswick, and Oldenburg, has been appointed Minister at Munich.

THE LATE EVENTS IN JAMAICA.

G. W. GORDON'S LAST LETTER.

It is stated that the finding and sentence of the Court were not communicated to the prisoner till an hour before the execution. In the interval he wrote the following letter to his wife:—

My beloved Wife,—General Nelson has just been kind enough to inform me that the court-martial on Saturday last has ordered me to be hung, and that the sentence is to be executed in an hour hence; so that I shall be gone from this world of sin and sorrow.

I regret that my worldly affairs are so deranged; but now it cannot be helped. I do not deserve this sentence; for I never advised or took part in any insurrection. All I ever did was to recommend the people who complained to seek redress in a legitimate way; and if in this I erred, or have been misrepresented, I do not think I deserve the extreme sentence. It is, however, the will of my heavenly Father that I should thus suffer in obeying His command to relieve the poor and needy, and to protect, as far as I was able, the oppressed. And glory be to His name! and I thank Him that I suffer in such a cause. Glory be to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; and I can say it is a great honour thus to suffer, for the servant cannot be greater than his Lord. I can now say with Paul, the aged, "The hour of my departure is at hand, and I am ready to be offered up. I have fought a good fight; I have kept the faith, and henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me." Say to all friends an affectionate farewell, and that they must not grieve for me, for I die innocently. Assure Mr. Alry and all others of the truth of this. Comfort your heart. I certainly little expected this. You must do the best you can, and the Lord will help you; and do not be ashamed of the death your poor husband will have suffered. The judges seemed against me; and, from the rigid manner of the Court, I could not get in all the explanation I intended. The man Anderson made an unfounded statement, and so did Gordon; but his testimony was different from the deposition. The judges took the former and erased the latter. It seemed that I was to be sacrificed. I know nothing of the man Bogle. I never advised him to do any act or acts which have brought me to this end. Please write to Mr. Chamervow, Lord Brougham, and Messrs. Henckell and Du Buisson.

I did not expect that, not being a rebel, I should have been tried and disposed of in this way. I thought his Excellency the Governor would have allowed me a fair trial, if any charge of sedition or inflammatory language were partly (if fairly) attributable to me; but I have no power of control. May the Lord be merciful to him!

General Nelson, who has just come for me, has faithfully promised to let you have this. May the Lord bless him, and all the soldiers and sailors, and all men! Say farewell to Mr. Phillips, also Mr. Licard, Mr. Bell, Mr. Vinton, Mr. Henry Dulasse, and many others whom I do not now remember, but who have been true and faithful to me.

As the General has come, I must close. Remember me to Aunt Eliza in England, and tell her not to be ashamed of my death. Now, my dearest one, the most beloved and faithful, the Lord bless, help, preserve, and keep you, the most dear mamma, who will be kind to you and Janet. Kiss also Annie and Jane. Say good-bye to dear Mr. Davison and all others. I have only been allowed one hour. I wish more time had been allowed. Farewell also to Mr. Esprit, who sent up my private letter to him. And now, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

Your truly devoted and now nearly dying husband,

G. W. GORDON.

I asked leave to see Mr. Panther,† but the General said I could not. I wish him farewell in Christ. Remember me to auntie and father. Mr. Bamsey has for the last two days been kind to me. I thank him.

Under the heading "The Arch-traitor, George William Gordon," the *Jamaica Standard* has the following:—

Proofs adduced at the trial of Henry Lawrence still further establish George William Gordon's guilty complicity in the foul murders at Morant Bay. Letters were found in Lawrence's keeping from Gordon, making direct reference to the plot decided upon, and indicating the Baron Von Kettelhoff, the Rev. Mr. Herschell, and others, as victims, whose escape from the bloody death designed for them should on no account be suffered to take place. Lawrence was overseer of the Rhine, George William Gordon's property. It will be seen thus that the arch-traitor, true to the system of hypocrisy which he had formed for himself, died with a lie upon his lips. He denied all previous knowledge of the rebellion, and of the tragedy enacted at Morant Bay, and protested his innocence to the last. These proofs, and many others that are turning up daily, show him to have been the prime mover and promoter of the foulest deeds of blood that have marked the outbreak of that rebellion. Evidence of the most unimpeachable character has also fixed Gordon as the author of the seditious placard which was posted at Stoney Gut, over the letter of her Majesty the Queen to the peasantry.

A JAMAICA MISSIONARY'S OPINION OF GORDON.

A missionary in Jamaica, in a letter, dated Nov. 3, to a friend in Edinburgh, says:—

The diabolical idea appears first to have entered into the mind of George Wm. Gordon, about three years ago, of murdering or banishing from the island all the white men and respectable and influential brown men, and putting it into possession of the blacks. He was a man who had a pretty good standing in society, and was member of the Assembly for the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, now almost desolated. He made a great profession of religion, and was for a time a leading member of Mr. Watson's church. He was kind to ministers; and I have more than once spent some time with him, and was pleased with the Christian way in which he conducted his family, generally presiding at worship one part of each day. After he was elected member of the Assembly he became a loud and constant advocate of all popular rights. On this account, and by his interminable harangues, he disgusted many, and raised up a host of enemies for himself in the Assembly. It was generally thought he was harshly treated both by the Governor and the Custos of his own parish, now murdered; and he got into violent quarrels with the clergy and the leading men of the parish. I have no doubt that he was mightily puffed up by the notice that was taken of him, and especially as being generally accounted the leader of the popular party. In all his ambitious designs, finding himself constantly thwarted and contemptuously treated by his opponents, the thought of getting rid of his enemies appears to have taken possession of his mind. To accomplish the infernal design, he seems to have imagined that the only way was by an outbreak of the people; and this led to the mad and horrible thought of destroying all the present influential men in the island. It now appears that for the last three years he has been making preparations for this general massacre, and for the last three months has been indefatigable in maturing it.

By the admirable skill and promptitude of the Governor the power of the rebels was in three days annihilated, and in three weeks almost every vestige of rebellion obliterated. I doubt not that, in addition to the widespread desolation it has occasioned to the parish in which it broke out, and to the misery of untold multitudes, whose homes have been burned, and they themselves forced to hide in dens and thickets to preserve themselves from military execution, more than a thousand persons have been either shot or hanged and a great multitude severely lashed. Such appears to be the end of this wicked revolt. Gordon some time ago joined the Baptists, and became a preacher among them; but I fear he was a wicked hypocrite and a savage at heart. He was hanged at the Courthouse, where the slaughter commenced, unplied by all, and leaving a name to be execrated by all good men.

THE JAMAICA HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Mr. George Price, senior member of the Legislative Council of Jamaica, thus describes the composition of the House of Assembly in that island:—

The Assembly consists of forty-seven members. Within the last thirty years there have been three black members in it; during the last three years there has not been one; but there are ten of its members more or less coloured, seven of them only slightly so. One of the ten keeps a retail shop, and one has kept a lively stable, but has property. (There has been a prize-fighter in the Commons of England.) One was once the editor of a leading paper and printer to the Legislature; he now owns considerable property, and is the chairman of the committees of the Assembly. These three are very old members of the Assembly, and have always supported the Crown. One of the ten owns a large store of estate's supplies, and has good property; one is a partner of the first mercantile house in Kingston; four are solicitors, of whom three are also clerks of the peace, with good salaries and good private practice; and one is the Speaker of the Assembly. The late Mr. Gordon was one of the ten, and no one has questioned his ability or the respectability of his late position.

There are thirty-seven white members. Of these three are large store-keepers, doing also merchant's business; two are merchants of the first class in Kingston, one was lately a banker, two are editors of leading newspapers, one a civil engineer, one a Crown surveyor, two physicians, one the inspector of hospitals, one an official assignee; one a clerk of the peace, with a good salary and private practice; one a barrister and Queen's advocate, one a Master in Chancery. Of these, and of the other white members of the Assembly, five own one small sugar estate or a cattle farm; nine own one large estate or coffee property, and represent other estates; and eleven own more than one good property, and some of them several. There being thus twenty-six landowners in the Assembly, it is not true that the landed interest is not properly represented. About thirty-four of the forty-seven members of the Assembly received their education in England; forty of the members are justices of the peace, not *ex officio*, but by appointment from different Governors. The gentlemen of the law are not justices; eight are custodes, specially selected by the Crown, as heads of the magistracy in their districts, and they appoint the clerks of the peace. They have associated with them 275 magistrates; and I may mention that in the questions which have most agitated the island during Mr. Eyre's administration, three of the custodes have stood by him and five have opposed him as a duty to the Crown.

* These three are his sisters.

† The minister who officiated at Gordon's Tabernacle.

NEW RAILWAY BILLS.

THE notices of intended application to Parliament for railway purposes in the Session of 1866 are very numerous, exceeding in number those of any preceding Session since 1846. The number of notices issued is about 450 for 1866, as against 415 for 1865, 360 for 1864, and 280 for 1863. Plans and sections for new railways and works have just been deposited with the Board of Trade for 340 bills. The powers sought in many of the notices for extensions of time to purchase land and complete works, for deviations from authorised lines, increase of capital, and entire abandonment of certain lines authorised in the two preceding Sessions, testify to the hasty mode in which many of them were designed and the unsatisfactory nature of the inquiry adopted by Parliamentary Committees. The enormous costs incurred by those annual inquiries, and the uncertainty of their results, instead of tending to diminish the number of those applications, it is feared that they form the great inducement to lawyers, engineers, and others to endeavour to swell the number every Session. Bills for extensions of railways not yet commenced, and for others in course of construction, are comparatively very numerous, and ought to attract attention in the new Parliament.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.

The Metropolitan Railway Company seek for additional powers to substitute an open cutting for a tunnel on the Notting-hill and Brompton extension of their line; to purchase lands and houses at Paddington, in Marylebone-road, in St. Pancras, in the Euston-road, near King's-cross; in Ely-place, Holborn; in Bishopsgate-street, in Aldgate, and the Minors. They also propose to construct on the Pneumatic Despatch system "collecting lines" from Baker-street station to Oxford-street, from the Portland-road station to Marlborough-mews, from Gower-street station to New Oxford-street, from Aldgate to Mile-end Old Town; and a line from Kensington to Westminster. It is also proposed, in conjunction with the Metropolitan District Company, to construct a Pneumatic Despatch branch from Brompton to Cheyne-walk, Chelsea. The Mid-London Company propose to make a railway from the West London at Shepherd's-bush to the London, Chatham, and Dover and Metropolitan Railways, near Smithfield, and to make new streets from New Bond-street to Hanover-square; from Tottenham-court-road to Lincoln's-inn-fields, and thence to Holborn. The Metropolitan Tramways Company propose to lay down rails upon the streets for the conveyance of passengers from Upper Holloway to Shoreditch, and from Seven Sisters-road to Tottenham-court-road. The Waterloo and Whitehall Company propose to extend their railway from Waterloo-station to Newington-butt. The Clapham and London Bridge Company propose to form junctions with the latter line at Newington-butt, and to make a railway from Clapham-common to the Elephant and Castle, and thence to London Bridge. The City and London Bridge Company propose to make a railway from the corner of St. Thomas's Hospital, passing under the Thames to Leadenhall-market, and thence to the East India Railway-house, Alderman's-walk, and in its course to appropriate the under surface of streets and squares. The London, Chatham, and Dover Company intend to make new streets in St. Ann's, Blackfriars, the main one being from Earl-street to Ludgate-hill, opposite the Old Bailey; and railway curves at Peckham, Denmark-hill, and Knight's-hill. The Thames Subway Company propose to make subways from Deptford, under the Thames, to the Isle of Dogs, with approaches. The Bricklayers' Arms and Elephant and Castle Junction Company propose to construct a railway between those stations. The East London Extension Company propose to make a railway from the authorised main line of the East London at Whitechapel to West Ham, and to Galleons Reach, near the Victoria Dock, and a branch to Mile-end Old Town. The East London Company propose to make a railway from Deptford to Vauxhall station of the South-Western Railway, and junctions with it at South Lambeth-road, and with the Chatham and Dover at Camberwell. They also propose to make an up-junction with the Great Eastern Railway at Bethnal-green, and also a junction at the Brick-lane goods station. The London, Chatham, and Dover and the South-Eastern companies jointly propose to make new railways from Blackfriars-road station to Clapham, Kennington, and Brixton. The Regent's Canal Company propose to make a railway from the King's-cross station of the Metropolitan Railway to Islington and Limehouse, with branches. The Pneumatic Despatch Company propose to purchase vaults and cellars under the public streets, without the necessity of purchasing the houses to which they are attached. The Metropolitan District Company propose to purchase lands and houses at Kensington, Westminster, Holy Trinity the Less (City), Garlick-hill, Queen-street, King William-street, Love-lane, St. Mary-at-Hill, St. Dunstan's-hill (near Great Tower-street), Redcross-square, Seething-lane, Trinity-square, and Barking-churchyard, with power to underpin buildings in its route. The Great Northern propose to purchase additional lands in the parishes of St. Pancras, St. Mary, Islington, and at Hoxsey and Enfield, and to widen the main line near the Caledonian-road; but the more important powers are those sought for mutual traffic arrangements with the Great Eastern Railway Company, by which at least three London stations—King's-cross, Great Eastern (at Liverpool-street, City), and Fenchurch-street—will practically be placed in the hands of one company, chiefly for the accommodation of long traffic. How the suburban districts, stations, and approaches to them are to fare on those lines must depend upon Parliament. In the outer circle the Great Northern proposes to make a line from Potter's-bar to Barnet and Hendon, and from Hertford to Stevenage. The Midland propose to purchase additional lands in Kentish Town, Blackwall, Middlesex, and Essex. The Great Eastern propose to make short railways at Hertford and Enfield, and to alter levels at Hanger-lane, to make a branch from near the latter place to the Alexandra Palace and Park, now in course of construction. A new company propose to construct a railway from the Midland to Barnet and Hendon. The Muswell-hill Estate Company propose to construct railways in Alexandra Park to form junctions with other railways there. The Metropolitan and St. John's-wood Company propose to extend their line from Hampstead to the Midland Railway at Hendon, to the Alexandra Park branch of the Edgware, Highgate, and London, and to the London and North-Western at Hampstead. The Edgware, Highgate, and London Company propose to extend their line from Hendon to Barnet. The Hampstead, Highgate, and Charing-cross Company propose to make railways from the North-Western and Charing-cross Railway northwards to the Hampstead Junction Railway, and to the North London, Highgate, and Alexandra Park branch. It is proposed to make a railway from the North London at Islington to Holloway and Hampstead; from the Tottenham and Hampstead Junction to the Great Northern at Holloway. To make railways from the Acton and Brentford Railway to Hounslow. To make a railway from the Metropolitan District Railway at Kensington to Putney, Wimbledon, and Richmond. The North Metropolitan Company propose to make a railway from the Great Western, near the Southall station, to the River Thames at Galleons Reach, with branches to the London and North-Western at Harrow, to the Midland at Hendon, to the Great Eastern at Hackney, and to the London and Tilbury Railway at West Ham. On the south of London it is proposed to construct new railways from Brixton to Clapham and Balham-hill, and to the Croydon and Balham Railway. The Crystal Palace and South London Railway Company propose to make railways to the South-Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railways. It is proposed to make a railway from Wimbledon and Croydon at Mitcham to Kingston-upon-Thames; also to construct railways from the South Croydon Railway to Reigate, Dorking, and Nutley-lane Farm. To make a railway from Kingston to Surbiton and Epsom Downs. The Great Western and Brentford propose to make a railway from near Southall to the South-Western Railway at Twickenham. It is proposed to make a railway from West Drayton to Staines; to make a railway from the London, Chatham, and Dover, in a direct line, to Croydon; to make a new railway to Epsom Downs. The South-Eastern Company propose to make new

lines from the Mid-Kent Railway at Addiscombe to Croydon and the Caterham Railway.

THE PROVINCES.

The foregoing comprise nearly all the new railway projects for the metropolis and suburbs. Probably the most difficult among the others are the Birkenhead and Liverpool, from the Birkenhead Railway under the Mersey to Liverpool; with extensions in Birkenhead to the Hoylake Railway, and at Liverpool to the Liverpool central station and to Garston. The Mersey Pneumatic Company propose to construct a railway on the pneumatic principle from Church-street, Liverpool, and thence under the river Mersey to near the Woodside Hotel, Birkenhead, and the North British (Taybridge), for a high-level bridge and railway from the North British line across the Tay to Dundee, forming junctions with other railways at and near Dundee. The contemplated working and traffic arrangements and amalgamations are rather extensive, the most important being that of the Great Northern, Great Eastern, and the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Companies, for mutual traffic arrangements, running powers over the lines of the others, with use of stations and sidings, appointment of joint committees to regulate and fix fares and rates over all and any portions of the three railways. Then, again, instead of the Great Eastern being obliged to make a northern extension line, as contemplated in the two past Sessions, through Lincolnshire to Doncaster, the Great Northern Company propose, as per notice, to sell the Great Eastern a moiety of the Spalding and March, and of the Great Northern loop line between Spalding and Gainsborough, and also of the line between Gainsborough and Doncaster stations, and to appoint a joint committee. It is proposed to enable the Great Eastern to run over the Gainsborough and Doncaster and the West Riding and Grimsby Railways, and in return to enable the Great Northern to run over the whole undertaking of the Great Eastern Railway Company, the two companies affording each other mutual facilities for the interchange of traffic. The Great Eastern, by means of another notice, are to be at liberty to make traffic arrangements with the Lancashire and Yorkshire and Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Companies. Those arrangements are as close to an amalgamation of the three companies as possible. Another of those mutual agreements is intended to enable the Midland and the Great Northern Railway Companies to become equal and joint owners with the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire of their new direct line, authorised last Session from Manchester to Liverpool, and also of the central station there. The Great Western have only one bill, giving them further powers to make short railways in Wales, to purchase lands at various places near London, Reading, Oxford, Gloucester, Newport, Shrewsbury, Stratford, and other places. To construct a branch to Halesowen, and to accept the transfer of the Wellington and Drayton, the Nantwich and Market Drayton, the Llangollen and Corwen, the Vale of Llangollen, the Stourbridge, the Henley-in-Arden, the Bridport, the Berks and Hants Extension, the Ely Valley, and the Stratford-upon-Avon Railways; the dissolution of those companies and transfer of the Hammersmith and City Railway. The Lancashire and Yorkshire propose to make the North Lancashire loop-line from Little Harwood to Habergham and Bolton, the Astley Bridge branch, the West Riding branches, and to ask for an extension of time to make certain branch railways. The London and North-Western propose to amalgamate the Whitehaven Junction and the Cockerham and Workington Railways with their undertaking. To make a new dock at Garston and works at Lime-street tunnel and new roads at Liverpool. To purchase lands in ten counties and extend time for completing the bridge over the Mersey at Runcorn, and for sale of surplus lands. To make new railways in the counties of Chester, Salop, Stafford, Flint, and the West Riding of Yorkshire, and to make agreements with the Great Western Railway Company. The London, Brighton, and South Coast propose to make a railway from the west front of the Crystal Palace to Croydon, a branch from Croydon to the Balham-hill line, a line from Croydon to the company's West-End and Crystal Palace line near the Streatham tunnel. To contribute towards the Surrey and Sussex and the Chichester and Midhurst Railways, and to purchase the Mid-Sussex and Midhurst Railway. The London and South-Western propose to make the Brentford curve line from the Great Western and Brentford line at Isleworth to the company's loop-line, and also a junction with the company's Kennington and Richmond line; to make a railway from Canford Magna on the Dorchester line to Longfleet, Poole, and an extension to Bournemouth. The London, Chatham, and Dover propose to improve the Queensborough Pier and widen it, to purchase additional lands in London, Kent, and Surrey, and to purchase the Sittingbourne and Sheerness Railway, to make a branch to Chatham Dockyard, and, in conjunction with the South-Eastern, a railway from Bromley to Farnborough and West Wickham; and also from Blackfriars-road to Clapham, Brixton, and Kennington. The Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire propose to vest the powers of the Extension to Liverpool Act, 1865, in the Great Northern and Midland, jointly with themselves, each to contribute one third of the cost; and also a similar arrangement with respect to the Liverpool Central Station, to widen a portion of the main line near Manchester, to make a branch to the Stockport and Woodley line, to make new lines in connection with the extension to Liverpool at Ashley, Warrington, Allerton, and to the Garston and Edgell line of the North-Western, and to enable the Great Northern and Midland to subscribe also mutual working and traffic facilities with those companies, and to construct a central station in Manchester, to which the other two companies are to subscribe. The Midland propose to purchase additional lands in seven counties, and to make arrangements with the Great Western as to lines and stations at Malvern. To make branch railways in the counties of Nottingham, Chester, Derby, Leicester, Stafford, Warwick, Bedford, city and county of Bristol, Middlesex, and the West Riding of Yorkshire. To make railways from the North-Western at Settle to Hawes, Appleby, and Carlisle; and from Ashby-de-la-Zouch to Nuneaton. Also extensions from the main line at Aston to the Cannock Chase and Wolverhampton and Walsall Railways, and to Wednesbury. The North British propose to amalgamate the Leadburn, Linton, and Dolphinton, and the Edinburgh and Bathgate Railways with their undertaking. To make a high-level bridge and railway across the Tay to Dundee, and branches there to other railways. To make four branches in and near Glasgow, several branches between Glasgow and the Glasgow and Coatbridge and the Monkland Railways; branches at Coatbridge, Camps, Addiewell, Broxburn, and Borrowstowness. To purchase additional lands in the counties of Dumfries, Lanark, Linlithgow, Edinburgh (and city), Roxburgh, Fife, Clackmannan, and Perth, and to make five branch railways; to make a deviation from the main line at St. Margaret's; and to make a railway from the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway to Stirling, with branches to the Monkland and to the Stirlingshire Midland Junction Railway.

The North-Eastern Company propose to make a railway from Gilling to Helmsley and Pickering; from near Leeds to Wetherby. To construct railways at Norton, Ferryhill, and Hartlepool; to make a timber-pond in Hartlepool slake, to alter roads and subscribe towards the Hexham and Alendale Railway. To construct railways from Knaresborough to Boroughbridge, at Pilmoor, and at Malton. To make lines between the Middleborough and Cleveland branches, and between the Ayrton and North Yorkshire and Cleveland branches; and also near York, together with a new station there.

The South-Eastern propose to make new lines at Greenwich, and from Tenterden to Appledore; to purchase additional lands in Surrey and Sussex, and to construct a custom-house at Dover. To make a new line from Addiscombe to Croydon, and to the Caterham and South-Eastern Railways; and also, jointly with the London, Chatham, and Dover, to make a new line from Beckenham to East Grinstead, Lewes, and Brighton, with branches to Godstone and Edenbridge, Newhaven.

CHARLES BENTLEY, a professional thief, who was in attendance, and on the look-out for "business," at the Liverpool Sessions Court, on Monday, was captured in the act of cutting off the pocket of a man in front of him. Bentley was immediately taken before the stipendiary magistrate and committed for three months.

THE LATE DISTRESS IN THE COTTON DISTRICTS.

ON Monday afternoon a meeting of the General Committee of the Fund for Relief of Distress in the Manufacturing Districts was held in the Mayor's parlour, at the Manchester Townhall, and was very numerously attended. The Mayor of Manchester (Mr. Bowker) took the chair, *ex officio*. There were also present the Earl of Derby (Chairman of the Central Executive Committee), Lord Egerton of Tatton, the Earl of Sefton, Mr. Watkin, M.P.; the Hon. A. Egerton, M.P.; Mr. G. L. Ashworth, Mr. Platt, M.P.; Colonel Patten, M.P.; and a number of the most influential members of the General Committee. A report of the Central Executive Committee was adopted.

Mr. M. Ross, President of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, read the minutes of a special meeting of the Central Executive Committee, at which it was unanimously resolved that a testimonial from that committee should form primarily a recognition of the invaluable services of Mr. J. W. Maclure, the hon. secretary of the relief funds; and that the resolution be communicated to the General Committee, that it might take such steps as it deemed proper in support of a testimonial to that gentleman. Lord Derby was requested to make the communication. The members of the Central Executive Committee had each contributed towards the object, and had raised £1096, which would remain a sum entirely distinct from any additional subscription on the part of others.

The Earl of Derby, in bringing before the meeting the resolution of the Central Executive Committee with reference to the recognition of the services of Mr. Maclure, said—

"Before I say a word upon that subject, allow me to congratulate you and the country—which I think I may do most conscientiously—upon the satisfactory character of the report which you have just heard read. Not only has there been a reduction of the amount of pauperism after the severe struggle through which the country has gone to a figure not exceeding, or very little exceeding, that of 1861, which was in the highest and most flourishing state of the cotton manufacture; but there is a considerable sum still left in hand, and what I consider is of infinitely more importance than either the one or the other, there has been an infinitely less amount of demoralisation and deterioration in the independent character of the working men of the country than could have been possibly expected when so large a sum was to be distributed in gratuitous relief. I think those who were the most favourable to expenditure of money for the charitable purposes in which we have been employed had forebodings, and I confess that I had myself forebodings, that such a large sum of money could not but possibly be expended without a very injurious effect upon the character of the working classes who had to receive that amount of relief. And it is most satisfactory to perceive—and the surest test of it is that there is no increase in the demand for parochial relief—that though to a certain extent that result may have followed, the result has been in a very infinitesimally small proportion to the amount of relief which has been afforded, and the risk which I do not hesitate to say was incurred. Gentlemen, in bringing before you the immediate subject of the resolution, I wish to state, in the first place, that I hope no discussion will take place now with regard to the propriety of considering the final disposal of the surplus still remaining in hand. Still more do I hope that no discussion will take place with regard to the best mode of dealing with that surplus, supposing we had it in our power. But I think it may be convenient to say that in the course of the spring the Bridgewater House Committee, contemplating the possibility of a surplus being finally left, thought themselves called upon to take the opinion of counsel as to what powers they had of diverting the sum to any purpose other than the strict purpose for which it was subscribed. We had the opinion of counsel that we had no power to divert it to any other purpose except upon an application to the Court of Chancery; but that the Court of Chancery probably, taking into consideration all the circumstances of the case, would be disposed to look favourably upon any scheme which might be proposed by the committee for the permanent disposal of the surplus still in hand. Now, it is quite obvious that any scheme of that kind requires very deliberate consideration before it is submitted to the Court of Chancery. On the other hand, I think I may say, as the unanimous opinion of the Executive Committee, that it is not desirable to keep in hand a very large balance beyond the time at which we may feel tolerably secure against any recurrence of the cotton famine. I think that it will not be thought desirable that that fund should remain in hand to be looked upon as available for meeting any casual and temporary fluctuation of employment. I think that there would be a very serious injury done if that principle were acted upon, and that we ought to dispose finally of our surplus as soon as we are satisfied that there is no probability or reasonable expectation of distress, anything approaching to that which we have gone through, recurring again. But the state of the cotton trade is so uncertain, and must be so uncertain for the next few months, that I hope there will be a unanimous concurrence in the opinion that it is more advisable to keep this fund in hand for the course of a few months, and in the mean time to abstain from expressing any opinion as to the mode in which it should be ultimately disposed of. Now, gentlemen, in looking back to the period which we have gone through, of three years of intense distress, there is one other most gratifying circumstance to which I must advert, which is the manner in which, throughout the whole of the country, all classes and all ranks have, each in their several localities, exerted themselves towards the diminution of distress, and not only by their pecuniary contributions but by their personal labours and their personal superintendence. To the local committees the report does no more than justice in speaking of the judgment and discretion and the ability and zeal with which they have discharged the duties which were imposed upon them—duties very often very painful, very onerous—the duty of keeping a strict watch over the funds entrusted to their charge, and the duty, on the other hand, of those who represented them before the Central Executive Committee of bringing the case of those whom they represented fairly before us, and at the same time not putting any undue pressure on the Central Executive Committee, or arguing too strongly in favour of their own personal and local interests. With regard to all these matters we cannot but be most grateful for the services which have been rendered, both by the local executive committees generally and by those gentlemen who have represented them on the part of the Central Executive Committee. Members of that committee have also, each in their own districts, laboured with a zeal, and diligence, and industry, which I trust will in every case meet with their reward in the increased respect and affection which may be borne to them by their poorer neighbours. But, among all those who have laboured, and laboured diligently and earnestly, for the promotion of the great object we had in view, I think I may venture to say, without fear of contradiction, that there has been no person whose services have been so unflinching, so invaluable, and so unceasing, as those of the honorary secretary, Mr. Maclure. For three years he has gratuitously performed the duties of that office, and has, in my own knowledge, for weeks, I believe I may say for months together, devoted, certainly very much to his own inconvenience and loss, a period of not less than twelve hours out of every four and twenty to the vast amount of business which pressed upon him in reference to this relief committee. That the accounts have been kept with the fidelity and care and accuracy with which they have been kept; that the money has not been wastefully squandered; that a strict watch has been kept over its application; and, finally, that, as compared with the total amount expended, the percentage required for superintendence and for expenses has been probably infinitely lower than ever was known with regard to a subscription of this magnitude—for a very great portion of this we are certainly indebted to the care, the unceasing energy, and the vigilance which have been displayed by Mr. Maclure; and it was the opinion of the Central Executive Committee, the general opinion—I may say the unanimous opinion—that it would be a matter of positive ingratitude if, at the period at which we have arrived, even although we have not possibly arrived at the final close of our labours, we were longer to defer such a recognition of his services as it was felt that they were fully and amply entitled to. I must say also that, the question having been raised whether it was competent or whether it was desirable that any portion of the public funds should be taken in order, not to remunerate—because really his services are beyond pecuniary remuneration—but to recognise the services which have been so rendered—the moment the question was raised Mr. Maclure authorised it to be said that under no circumstances would he receive a single shilling in remuneration for his services from the funds which have been subscribed by the public. That being the case, and, at the same time, desirous of showing our esteem for Mr. Maclure and the value attaching to his services, we felt that it would be impossible for us longer to delay the expression of our own opinion, and consequently in the executive committee it was agreed that we should subscribe among ourselves, as from the Central Executive Committee, a sum of money sufficient to give Mr. Maclure a very handsome testimonial of our esteem and gratitude, and at the same time to accompany it with a substantial testimony in the shape of a sum of money in addition to whatever testimonial might be finally decided upon. We have now discharged what we felt to be our duty, in entering into this subscription; and we felt it to be our duty, having done so, to report it to the General Committee. We consider that we have done our duty in taking the step ourselves, and in bringing before the General Committee the knowledge that we had done so; and, that being the case, we have to leave it in your hands whether any further steps shall be taken in the matter."

Mr. J. A. Bremner said the recognition of the special claim which Mr. Maclure had upon the committee was not confined to that room; it extended not only throughout Manchester, but the neighbouring towns. If the Maclure testimonial were to extend over a greater area, and include the neighbouring districts, it would, no doubt, be unanimously supported. He therefore proposed the appointment of a sub-committee to take such steps as might be deemed advisable to secure the contributions of the various committees in Lancashire and throughout the kingdom to present to Mr. Maclure a fitting testimonial. Dr. John Watts seconded the motion.

The Earl of Derby said it was due to Mr. Maclure to say he had expressed a very anxious wish that the begging-box should not be sent round, and that there should be no canvassing in the matter.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and on the motion of Dr. J. Watts a resolution of thanks was voted to the Earl of Derby, Sir J. P. Kaye-Shuttleworth, and other members of the executive committee, and Mr. Maclure, for their long, laborious, and arduous services during the late distress.

The Earl of Derby acknowledged the vote, and the meeting terminated.

THE REV. J. C. M. BELLEW.

THERE are few men whose names are better known in London than that of the Rev. J. C. M. Bellew. As a popular lecturer and preacher, as well as an accomplished elocutionist, Mr. Bellew is perhaps without a rival. Other public teachers—for Mr. Bellew is a teacher in the highest and worthiest sense of the word—may be more profound and capable of imparting more solid information, but none are so elegant or so attractive in their style of oratory. As an author, too, Mr. Bellew occupies a respectable position. Besides many pleasing contributions to what would at one time have been called polite literature, the rev. gentleman published, a few months ago, a novel entitled "Blount Temple," which was well received, and showed that he possessed powers of no mean order as a writer of fiction.

The Rev. John Chippendale Montesquieu Bellew, S.C.L., is the only child of the late Captain Robert Higgin, of Lancaster; his mother was a member of the family of Lord Bellew, in Ireland. He was born in 1823, and assumed his mother's maiden name. He was educated at the Grammar School, Lancaster, and entered at St. Mary's Hall, Oxford, in 1842. Here he became a frequent speaker at the "Union" debating society, and in 1848 he was ordained Curate of St. Andrew's, Worcester. In 1850 he became Curate of Prescott, whence he went out to the East Indies as a chaplain in the following year. He was attached to St. John's Cathedral, Calcutta, from that date till 1855, when he returned to England, and undertook a temporary engagement at St. Philip's, Regent-street, where he gained great celebrity for his oratorical powers. Having held some temporary clerical appointments, he became, in 1862, Incumbent of Bedford Chapel, Bloomsbury. Mr. Bellew is a frequent lecturer at literary and scientific institutions in the suburban districts of London.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES TO THE LONDON RIFLE BRIGADE.

THE volunteer year having closed with November, the first movement of the new year, with most regiments, is the distribution of the prizes won during the preceding twelve months. One of the most attractive of these ceremonies took place, on Saturday last, at the Crystal Palace, where this interesting phase of volunteer life was witnessed by many thousand persons in the prize distribution to the London Rifle Brigade. The distribution took place in the Handel orchestra, which was fittingly decorated; and among other visitors were Colonel Erskine, the Inspector-General; Lord Ranelagh, and many members of the City Corporation. Colonel Warde, the Commandant of the brigade, in an address which he made before the ceremony of the evening, said, the prizes which had to be distributed that day formed the largest display, both in number and value, ever presented to the brigade, a fact which proved that the brigade had won the good opinion of those under whose support it was started. The City acted as the first parent to the brigade, giving it a subscription of many thousands of pounds, and assisting it in many ways; and the City companies had come forward in the most handsome manner with prizes of from ten to one hundred guineas in value. He was glad to see this, more especially at the present time, because the generosity of the first starting might be said to have been stimulated by something like panic and excitement; but this could not be said now, this being the sixth year of the brigade. The second, third, and fourth years might be looked upon as trial years, and these having passed the brigade had received the most ungrudging support. He was glad to say that the various City wards were adopting companies as their own; and he was in hopes that in a short time there would not be a company in the brigade without the name of a ward, and be to its ward an honour. The ward of Cripplegate had given the brigade a noble challenge prize, to be shot for ever, and the beauty of the design was only equalled by the generosity of the ward. [The speaker pointed to a large and massive model in solid silver of old Cripplegate. At each of the four corners of the gate an English yeoman stands in an attitude of shooting, and beneath each figure is a volunteer at the "Ready" position, thus representing two different eras.] The gallant officer went on to relate one of the many legends of Cripplegate, thus causing some amusement; and concluded by stating that the brigade would return about one hundred more effective members than in the

previous year, a fact upon which he congratulated them. Lady Harriet Warde then handed the prizes to the winners, who on crossing the platform were loudly cheered. The prizes amounted in value to about £1000. The honour of winning the gold badge as best shot of the brigade was accorded to Colour-Sergeant Churchill, who was received with military honours. After the ceremony Colonel Warde proposed a vote of thanks to the visitors, coupling with the votes the names of Colonel Erskine and Lord Ranelagh.

Colonel Erskine, in acknowledgment, said it had afforded him great pleasure to meet the regiment and to take part in the interesting ceremony in which they were engaged. The annual retrospect of the affairs of the brigade given by the Colonel must have afforded much pleasure to the numerous friends and patrons of the corps who were present. It was evident that the regiment was in a very prosperous condition. With regard to their efficiency in drill, it was not necessary for him to say much, because they had

officers and men were strangers to each other, and that the want of acquaintance and respect led to irremediable confusion. He trusted, therefore, that so long as the London Rifle Brigade existed as a corps the feeling of respect between officers and men now existing would continue.

Lord Ranelagh, who, with Sergeant Harris, Devon Light Horse, the well-known volunteer aide-de-camp, was present, then, at the invitation of Colonel Warde, addressed a few words to the brigade. His Lordship, who was received in a very cordial way, said there was no man in the volunteer force had a higher respect for the brigade. He remembered well seeing them march up the road at the first review at Chislehurst. He should never forget the soldier-like appearance they presented, because he had felt certain then that what the brigade could do other regiments could do, though he felt bound to say that at that time they were a long way ahead of other regiments. Adverting then to the desirability of still further recruiting the volunteer force, he said

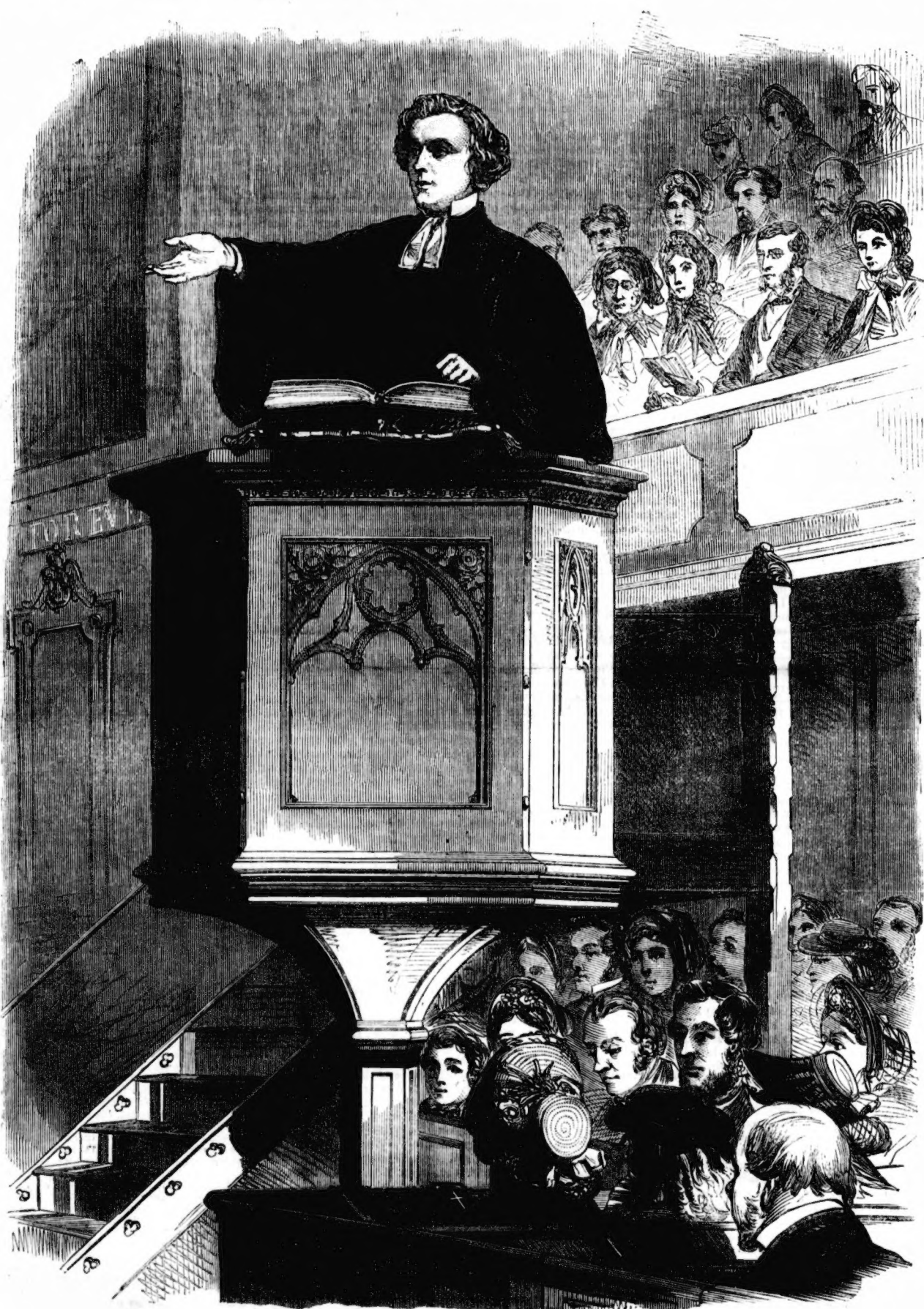
he saw around him in every direction young men that might with honour to themselves and advantage to the country join the volunteer force. Its position was now assured. Those who at the outset did not believe in its permanent usefulness must have learned to follow the progress of the force with respect and admiration. See what the volunteers had done in New Zealand. He would ask the young men who had not joined the force what the volunteers had done there? Then, again, in Canada, they had shown again and again that they were ready to come forward at a moment's notice in defence of their homes. Look, again, at the horrible massacre in Jamaica. Who were the men who, notwithstanding in the hour of danger, had proved their devotion to their duty? They were volunteers. When commanding officers now got up, as they had sometimes to do, to return thanks when the toast of "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers" was proposed, they could point to these cases in proof that the volunteers were made of the same sterling stuff as our gallant Army and our glorious Navy. In conclusion, his Lordship proposed that three cheers should be given for Lady Harriet Warde.

A very hearty response being made to this invitation, Colonel Warde briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the proceedings were brought to a close by the band playing the National Anthem.

WINTER IN CALCUTTA.

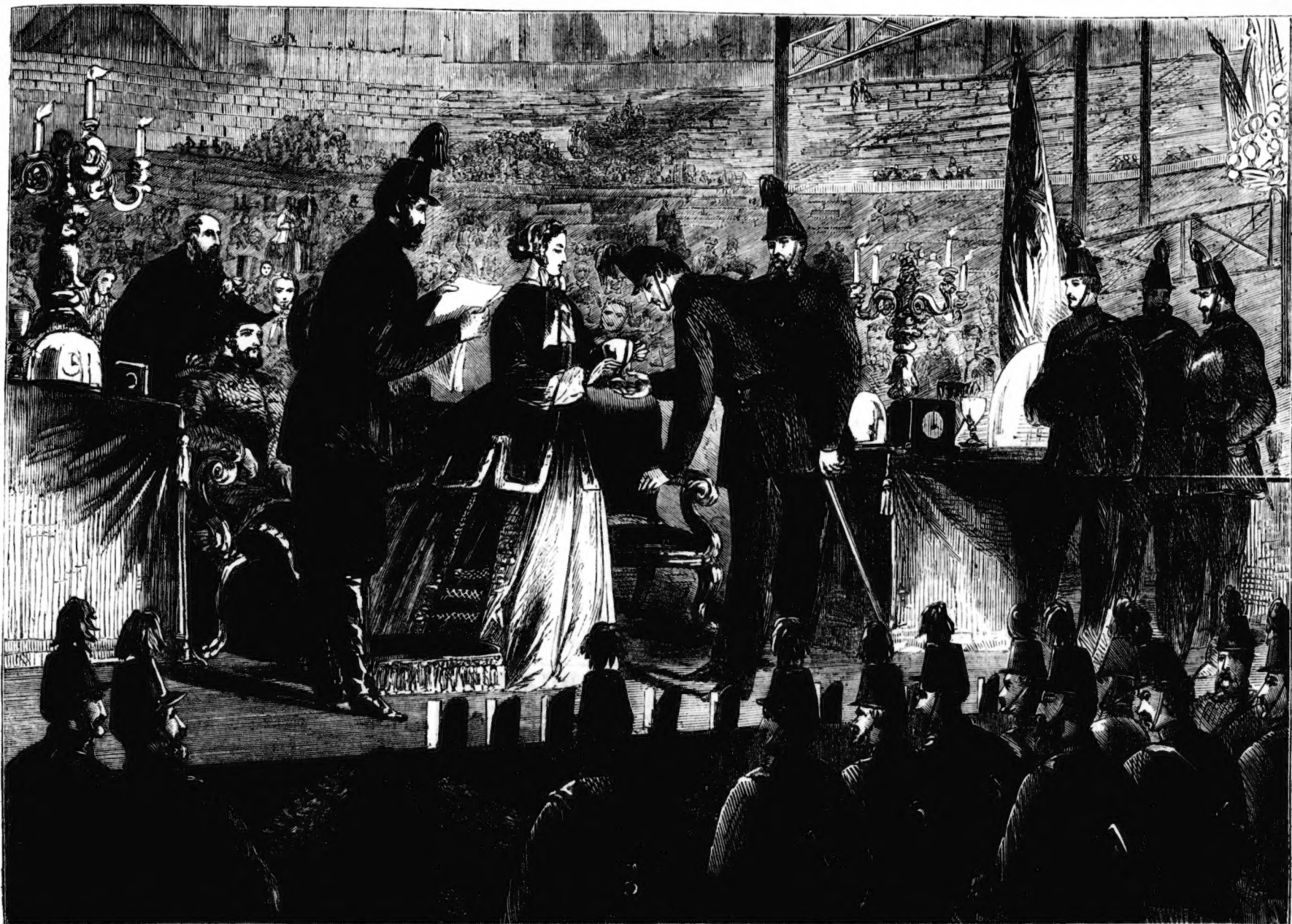
There is no such popular subject of conversation in India, among Anglo-Indians at least, as the ignorance of "people at home" concerning the country; not, however, that the Anglo-Indians have a right to take it for granted that everybody who "goes out" knows all about India, and that everybody who does not know nothing about it. Such things have been as men and women being taken to Southampton in a British railway-train; embarking thence in a British steamer; living while on board on British food, qualified by British beer and wines which have become British by adoption; touching, on the way out, at British dependencies and taking in British coals; and, during their residence in India, eating, drinking, thinking, talking, listening to nothing that was not British as British can be. Such persons pick up a great deal about the usages of their countrymen in a hot climate; are competent judges of curry, and indisputable authorities upon beer and champagne in their relation to tropical influences. But they need learn next to nothing of the country in which they sojourn, and may easily come home as ignorant upon the subject as they went out. But it is not to be supposed that the majority of our countrymen in India aspire to or incur this benighted condition; and there is really a great deal of justice in the strictures commonly passed upon the comparative ignorance of "people at home."

One of the popular delusions which we steadily entertain in this country is that there is no cold weather in India. In the first place, it is absurd to sum up the whole country, which has several varieties of climate, in one sweeping assumption. But in every part there is cold weather, more or less, even though, as in Madras, there is very little of it at any particular season, and your relief from the prevailing heat is principally obtained in the sea-breeze which blows in the evenings throughout the year. But even the Madras Presidency has accessible hills, which are uninhabitable only when too cold; while in the plains, in the north-west and the Punjab,



THE REV. J. C. M. BELLEW.

received, at their annual inspection, the approbation of a much higher military authority than himself—that of the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, who had expressed his approval not only of their soldier-like and smart appearance on parade but of the excellent manner in which all the manoeuvres performed in his presence had been executed. He (Colonel Erskine) was sorry to hear that musketry practice was not so well attended to as it ought to be. He hoped they would remember what Colonel Warde had said on the subject, and that in the volunteer year now just commenced they would make increased exertions to remove any cause of complaint. He was much struck, last year, by the statement made by Colonel Warde of the strong feeling of mutual respect existing between the officers and those whom they had to command. Although Colonel Warde had been silent on the subject this year, it was not from the extinction of that feeling. They must all have found, from experience, how conducive that feeling was to each man's individual comfort, and to the preservation of the reputation of the corps. If it was desirable such a state of things should exist under present circumstances, it became absolutely necessary that it should exist even to a greater extent in time of war, for no military operations could be successfully conducted without the existence of that mutual respect. The gallant officer then gave a resumé of the hundred days' campaign of Napoleon, and accounted for the disorganised retreat of the French after the Battle of Waterloo by the fact that the



PRESENTATION OF PRIZES TO THE CITY RIFLE BRIGADE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

there is winter to this extent—that, during four months or so of the year, you may make ice sufficient to last for domestic purposes during all the hot weather. In Calcutta there is nothing like this state of things; and, in the race for ice, the Presidency would be nowhere but for the American ships, which bring over “Wenham Lake” enough to

keep the population in skating, if it could be adapted to that purpose. But, still, Calcutta has its winters, as cold as occasional mild winters in this country; when, though the days are usually bright, the nights are damp, and chilly, and misty, and sometimes foggy to a fault; when you are glad of a fire at home, and have to go abroad in your thickest coats; when you get coughs, and colds,

and ailments that settle on the lungs; and, in fact, have most of the seasonable enjoyments of home, including storms which come on with a suddenness and a violence unknown in these prosaic regions.

It is one of the latter that is depicted in the accompanying sketch. But do not suppose for a moment that the artist means to



"WINTER IN CALCUTTA."—DRAWN BY FLORENCE CLAXTON.

give us an illustration of the late cyclone, which is, happily, a visitation of a kind very seldom known. Any respectably severe storm, during either the rains or the cold weather, will produce the effects here portrayed. During the rains nothing is more common, after a deluge all day, than an accommodating state of the atmosphere towards evening—say at four or five o'clock—which tempts people abroad. Things, in fact, look quite charming; nobody has any fears either for their horses or themselves; carriages are ordered in a hundred homes, and crowds sally forth to enjoy a little of the beauty of nature before the inevitable advent of dinner and the surrender of their free will to the domestic four walls until bedtime. For be it remembered that Calcutta is not a place where people can always find places of amusement wherein to disport themselves after the meal of the day. Men can go in search of possible billiards, especially those who belong to a mess; but for ladies there is very little relaxation to be found out of doors, and the majority of families do not attempt to discover any beyond the limits of private parties. They are, therefore, doubly anxious to take the air during the afternoon, if the air will only allow them; and it continually happens that they are too confiding in appearances. The storm always seems to wait until nearly everybody is out, and then it bursts forth with a vengeance. All is smiling and serene, when clouds are seen gathering ahead, and then great claps of thunder seem to split the sky, which is illumined from time to time by lightning, of which it would be difficult to form an idea from the feeble attempts at such demonstrations as are seen in this country. The rain, too, descends, not in lines, as we see it here, but in streams; the sky, instead of yielding it in regular order, pouring it down even in masses. At the first intimation of the outbreak the horses' heads are all turned towards home; and as everybody lives in the same quarter, and everybody has driven out much in the same direction, the spectacle has all the animation of a contested race. Occasionally you hear of a carriage being completely overturned by a sudden squall; and facetious people declare that upon one occasion, when a lady was thrown out, she lay so long on the road exposed to the drenching downfall that her hair turned its colour to that of a pea-green—a change which, however, we are not prepared to say is the usual effect of a copious immersion. Being caught in a storm of the kind, too, is always the more annoying owing to the fact that no sooner have you got home and into dry clothes than Nature begins to smile again—with something of a grin, surely, this time—and ten minutes afterwards there is a general "clear up," the sky looking so beautiful in reflecting the setting sun that the prospect of bad weather for any time to come seems utterly out of the question.

Prudent persons who go out may be deceived by appearances; but even those who stay at home are not altogether exempt from disaster. The winter storms are naturally the strongest, and rain at this season is the more annoying from being unexpected. In the interior here presented the artist has given us a vivid picture of what may possibly happen to a small party preparing to spend a quiet afternoon with a little music—a couple of sisters, say, with a friend of congenial tastes. All is as quiet as should be when a young lady is engaged at the piano, a young gentleman turning over the leaves, and another young lady contributing to the necessary conversation which fills up the intervals, when, on a sudden, a roar and a howl are heard from without, and in come the windows; the rain follows as a matter of course, and the wind makes a clean sweep of most objects in the room. The bearer, however alert, is not likely to prevent the *fillets* from being dashed into the middle of the apartment, preceded by the window-frames, with their broken glass; and the chairs from being blown over, those which have occupants involving them, perhaps, in the general discomfiture; while miscellaneous objects fly about the room of their own free will. In the scene annexed you may observe that the ladies seek safety in clinging to the pianoforte, and that the gentleman's whiskers are in danger of being blown into infinite space; while the Skye terrier is so embarrassed by contending against the wind that he can do nothing but bark at things in general, and does not even see the bird which has been blown in before the gale—an object which under happier conditions would have had his undivided attention. A pleasant termination, truly, to an afternoon party; and it will be some days before the drawing-room resumes its pristine appearance. But, fortunately, they do not crowd their apartments with furniture in Calcutta as we do in England, and there are fewer small ornaments and nicknacks about, so that less damage is done than might be supposed. The rooms themselves, moreover, are so large that there is a tolerable hope for escape in running before the wind. It is very fortunate that ladies in India, after a little experience, take kindly to casualties of the kind. Neither of these will think much of their temporary discomfiture, which will furnish an amusing subject for conversation at dinner; so that, after all, there seems no reason for regretting the occurrence, which may be considered an agreeable variety in Calcutta life.

S. L. B.

THE CRAMLINGTON STRIKE.—Late on Tuesday night a special train reached Newcastle-on-Tyne from Cornwall and Dorsetshire with 300 miners and labourers, which the owners of Cramlington colliery—the men belonging to which have been so long on strike—had hired to be employed in working that mine upon non-union principles. The train proceeded from Newcastle to Cramlington the same night, and were protected there by a large number of policemen. The colliery would resume work yesterday morning, after having been unemployed for nearly thirty weeks.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—The Registrar-General's weekly return presents a general improvement of health all over the country. The average mortality in the principal towns is this week twenty-eight in the thousand. London and Dublin are again lowest in the list; Liverpool, as usual, is the highest. Bristol has for the present lost its previous good character for health, and this week stands twenty-nine, or one above the average. The total number of deaths recorded is 3050, of which 1368 belong to London. This return presents the gratifying result of being 200 below the ten years' average. The total births were 4079, of which 2071 were born in London, or about 130 above the average.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BEAT INSTITUTION.—A meeting of this institution was held, on Thursday, at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Mr. Lewis, the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, rewards amounting to £224 were granted for different noble services by life-boats of the institution during some of the storms of the past month in saving life. The silver medal of the institution was voted to Mr. J. Heath, chief boatsman of the Coastguard and coxswain of the Fowey Life-boat, in admiration of his skill and daring in assisting to save, under very perilous circumstances, the crews of twenty-two persons of the barque Drydens, of North Shields, and the brig Wearmouth, of Sunderland. Rewards amounting to £178 were also voted to pay the expenses of various life-boats of the institution, for either going out and rendering assistance to vessels in distress, or for putting off, in reply to signals of distress, to render services to different vessels, which, however, afterwards got out of danger. It appears that during these gales, the life-boats were instrumental in saving 114 shipwrecked persons, in addition to bringing two vessels safely into port, no less than 421 lives having been saved by the life-boats of the institution during the eleven months of the present year, in addition to bringing fourteen vessels safely into harbour. It was reported that the life-boats of the institution had been manned during the past three years by about 18,000 persons, and that out of that large number only three men had been lost. Various other rewards were also granted for saving life from different wrecks on our coasts. Payments amounting to upwards of £3000 were ordered to be made on the various life-boat establishments of the institution. The sale of £2000 stock of the institution was ordered to be made to meet these heavy disbursements. It was reported that G. Jeremy, Esq., and Mrs. Jeremy had presented £400 to the institution to defray the cost of a life-boat. A communication was read from Captain A. R. Weston, of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's steamer Simla, forwarding £50 8s. 7d., and stating that he was using his best endeavours to collect the cost of a Simla life-boat amongst the passengers sailing on board his vessel between Calcutta and Aden, to be presented to the institution. Legacies of £100 by the late Captain Brown, of Kilmarnock, and £100 by the late James McNab, Esq., of Guilford, had been received by the institution. The late Mr. T. Boys and Mr. Dudley Costello had also recently left the institution legacies. During the past month the institution had sent new life-boats to Anstruther, Tynemouth, Bacton, and Cernlyn. The cost of the life-boat for Tynemouth had been contributed by the people of Pontefract and Goolie, where she was publicly exhibited, on the 6th inst., on the way to her station, Lady Houghton, supported by the principal nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood, kindly naming the boat on the occasion. A public demonstration also took place on the 18th ult., on the occasion of the Anstruther life-boat being placed on the station. The proceedings then closed.

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will be issued on SATURDAY, DEC. 23, price Fourpence Halfpenny, and will contain the following, among other

ENGRAVINGS:

Christmas Eve: Hanging up Holly and Mistletoe. Drawn by J. T. Lucas.
Old Folks at Home and Young Ones Away. Drawn by Florence Claxton.
Christmas at the Zoological Gardens. Drawn by H. S. Melville.
Musical Chairs. Drawn by Adelaide Claxton.
Christmas Eve in the South of France in the Seventeenth Century. Drawn by H. D. Grisct.
La Reveillon. A Christmas Custom in the North of France. Drawn by F. Anderson, from a Sketch by H. D. Grisct.
Invited and Not Invited. Drawn by C. Robinson.
English Sailors Buying a Christmas Dinner at Algiers. Drawn by M. Morgan.

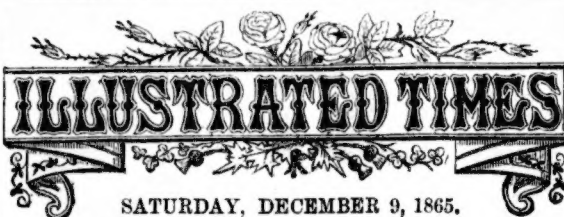
A Page of Rebuses for Christmas. Drawn by Warwick Reynolds.

The Number will also contain the following

TALES AND POEMS:

Prince High Deranger (Hydrangea). By W. B. Rands.
Colonel Crankett's Singular Experience. By T. W. Robertson.
The Magic Punchbowl. By James Greenwood.
A Story Spilled in the Telling. By T. Archer.
Jack Prout's Christmas Party. By E. Draper.
A Christmas Carol. By T. Hood.
The Soldier Angel. By W. B. Rands.

Other Articles, and all the News of the Week.



NATIONAL CALAMITIES: THE COTTON FAMINE AND THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

GREAT BRITAIN has just passed through one great national calamity, and is now suffering from another. We have had the cotton famine; and we have the cattle plague. The one threatened the destruction of a leading branch of national industry; the other threatens the annihilation, or at least serious curtailment, of the home supplies of food. Grievous troubles, both! But, inasmuch as the country has not sunk under the infliction of the cotton famine—nay, has positively profited by it, in more ways than one—may we not hope that the cattle disease may also turn out to be a blessing in disguise? "There is a soul of good in all things evil, would men observingly distil it out." We have distilled several good lessons out of the cotton famine, in itself and in its cause a terrible evil; may we not also distil good lessons from the cattle plague, also in itself a grievous calamity?

From the occurrence of the cotton famine we have learned, among other things: 1st. That this country does not depend for existence upon any one branch of industry, however important that branch may be. 2nd. That there is a fund of sympathy disseminated among us that prompts us to make the task of relieving the sufferings of one class the duty of all. 3rd. That no emergency, however great, can occur but men will be found, in all ranks of life, capable of rising to the height of the occasion, and undertaking and efficiently discharging the duties, whatever they may be, which the emergency imposes. 4th. That there is an amount of intelligence and patience in the hearts of the people, even the humblest, that enable them to see the true source of their troubles, to bear those troubles meekly, and to aid those to whose hands the task of relieving necessity is committed. 5th. That when one source of supply for any article of prime necessity fails, another is sure to be found. 6th. That the removal beforehand of all obnoxious distinctions between classes and all laws for class benefit, has a powerful influence in sweetening the breath of society, and enabling men to bear patiently troubles which they know cannot be ascribed to the selfishness of their fellow-countrymen. 7th. That the incidence of such calamities, by diverting unoccupied labour to other channels, opens new branches of industry and leaves behind a valuable residuum of social and sanitary improvement.

Some of these lessons are the natural product of the cotton famine, and are self-evident; others were the results of previous action and required such a calamity to develop them. What may be termed the social results of the cotton famine—such as the kindly feeling displayed by one section of the community and the patience and self-denial of the other—were dwelt upon in suitable terms by the Earl of Derby at the meeting, at Manchester, on Monday. What may be called the political and the economic lessons taught us by the cotton famine, however, did not come under the scope of his Lordship's remarks, and may therefore be dwelt upon more fully here. Had not the education of the people been previously promoted, and their representation in Parliament been amended, so that they knew that no mere legislation or political changes could either cause or cure their misery; and had not the corn laws been repealed and our fiscal system so reformed as to remove every impediment to trade, and consequently all sources of heartburning between classes, who shall say whether or not the suffering and comparatively ignorant masses who were deprived both of occu-

pation and bread by the stagnation in the cotton trade might not have acted again as they had done under like sufferings before—have blamed other classes for the evils they endured, and have wreaked a terrible, though senseless, vengeance on those whom they deemed the authors of their troubles? To do justice is ever wise in nations as in individuals; and during the four years of the cotton famine Great Britain has reaped the benefit of having done justice by admitting a large portion of the people to a share in the government of the country; by disseminating information among the masses; by the removal of restrictions on printing; and, above all, by abolishing taxes on the people's food. The economic lesson taught by the famine is that we may now resume our cotton industry, and carry it on to as great an extent as before, or even a greater, without the fear of stagnation again occurring from the same cause. We are no longer dependent upon one source of supply for the raw material; we have opened up many; and in this fact there is safety. Sanitary improvements, too, have resulted from the cotton famine; which in this way has left a permanent and invaluable blessing behind it. The drainage of towns which in this respect were in a very bad state, has been, or is being, put in order; roads have been constructed where urgently required, parks have been formed, and the elements of improved health and comfort introduced where they were unknown before; and the people, by having learned to live more frugally than they were wont, have been taught a lesson which we hope they will not soon forget. Even the cotton famine, then, has caused an amount of good which goes far to compensate for the evils it produced.

Why should not the cattle plague do the same? Before the appearance of the disease we had lulled ourselves into a fatal state of security and carelessness. We were every day violating the laws on the observance of which we knew that animal health depended. We kept cows penned up in noisome dens in the midst of large cities, where healthful existence was impossible. We overfed our cattle, giving them unnatural, and therefore unwholesomely stimulating food; we thought only of making beef and mutton, when we ought also to have considered the comfort, the tastes, and the habits of the subjects on which we operated. The importation and the conveyance to market of cattle were conducted in the most slovenly, cruel, and wasteful manner. We paid little or no attention to the study of animal physiology and the rules which govern the brute creation in health or cure them in disease. We have rectified some of these mistakes already; but we have to carry our studies and our reforms much further. Some attention is now paid to the condition in which cattle are kept—to how they are lodged, fed, and tended. A better system has been adopted in the importation trade; and our markets are more carefully inspected. All this is so far well; but it is not enough. Cows must no longer be taken from their natural place—the open fields and free air—and mewed in cities. Cattle markets and shambles in the midst of large towns will probably have to be abolished entirely; and the cattle slaughtered at or near to where they have been reared and fed, and the meat conveyed to the consumer afterwards. Instead of the ox coming to the butcher, the butcher will perhaps have to go to the ox. Our public markets will by-and-by, it may be, all become dead and not live meat marts. This would, no doubt, create a revolution in an important trade, and cause inconvenience to individuals; but, if the general good and the preservation of the health of our animal stock require it, it will have to be submitted to. Indeed, we do not see any insuperable difficulties in the way of such a change of system. We in London already receive a large proportion of our supplies in the shape of dead meat; why should we not receive the whole? Eggs, poultry, game, butter, cheese, &c., are now collected in detail from all parts of the country, and even from abroad. What is to hinder the same being done with beef, and mutton, and pork, and milk? The facilities for carriage are now ample throughout the country, and are every day becoming more so. Even from the Continent the carcasses of an animal can be conveyed to London and other markets in a wholesome condition, if proper precautions be taken. If it shall appear, as we believe it must, that the health and comfort of both men and beasts will be improved by a change from our present to a new system, then the change will force itself upon us; and we shall probably be astonished, when the thing is done and we feel the benefit, that we persisted so long in following the old plan.

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—In the announcement of her Majesty's intention to open the new Parliament, it was stated that there would be certain modifications in the accustomed ceremonial. We are informed that her Majesty, instead of using the old unwieldy state coach, will occupy what is called "a dress carriage;" that the robes of state, instead of being actually worn by her Majesty, will be laid upon the throne; and that the Speech itself, instead of being read by her Majesty, will be read by the Lord Chancellor.—*Times*.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The International Exhibition of Fruits and Vegetables was opened, at the South Kensington Gardens, to-day (Saturday). The foreign exhibitors are numerous, and every quarter of the globe appears likely to be represented. Nova Scotia sends a contribution from one hemisphere; his Highness the first Prince of Travancore from the other. Australia, Denmark, Malta, &c., are not behindhand. A considerable number of gold medals will be awarded on the occasion.

SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.—This exhibition will be of fair average in numbers and above average in quality, at the expense of the various provincial shows, for the simple reason that the prizes offered by the club are so large that the exhibitors, compelled by recent stringent regulations to select and confine themselves to one show, prefer that at the Agricultural Hall to Birmingham and other county displays. To the visitors it will be an advantage that the hall will not be overcrowded by cattle. The following list will show that there will be enough in every class to satisfy the most enthusiastic amateur in stock:—Beasts, 265—namely, 32 Devons, 26 Herefords, 84 shorthorns, 51 of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Sussex breeds, 29 Scotch, and 19 extra stock of various breeds; sheep, 344—namely, 115 long-woolled, 18 short-woolled, and 45 crossbreds; pigs, 137.

THE THEATRE ROYAL, successor to the Queen's Theatre Royal, which was destroyed by fire, in Edinburgh, a short time since, was opened for the first time, on Saturday evening. There was a tremendous "house;" and the lessee and his wife (Mr. and Mrs. Wyndham) were received with the warmest welcome as they came forward to speak an opening address. A new act-drop, by Mr. Tobin, was received with universal expressions of delight.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN has formally notified her consent to the marriage of Princess Helena with Prince Christian of Augustenburg.

PRINCE HUMBERT, heir-apparent of the Crown of Italy, is, it is said, to be married in March next to the Princess de Leuchtenberg, grand-daughter of Prince Eugene de Beauharnais, who bore the title of "Viceroy of Italy" under Napoleon I.

THE HEALTH OF KING LEOPOLD is once more in a precarious state. Dr. Jenner has again left England for Laeken, we believe, at the command of her Majesty.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER has had an attack of paralysis, but is slowly recovering. The venerable Prelate is in his eighty-eighth year.

PARLIAMENT has been summoned to meet on Thursday, Feb. 1, 1866, for "dispatch of business."

LORD BROUGHAM left Brougham Hall, Cumberland, on Monday, for his chateau at Cannes, in the south of France, where the noble Lord purposes, as usual, to spend the winter.

RICHARD MADOX BROMLEY, late Commissioner of Greenwich Hospital, died last week.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN OF AUGUSTENBURG has resigned his commission as Chef d'escadron in the Prussian army, in consequence of the letters exchanged between his elder brother, Prince Frederick, and General de Manteuffel.

MR. HENRY KINGSLEY AND SIR RODERICK MURCHISON have taken up the pen in defence of Governor Eyre, of Jamaica.

THE OFFICERS AND CREW OF H.M.S. BULLDOG, which was blown up at Cape Haytien, have arrived at Southampton, in a Haytien war-steamer.

MR. HUGHES, M.P. for Lambeth, was entertained at dinner at the Bridge House Hotel, on Monday evening, in honour of his return to Parliament.

MIDDLE. THERESA LABLACHE, eldest daughter of M. Frederic Lablache, and grand-daughter of the great basso, has just been married to M. Rokitsanski, a bass singer known at the Italian theatres of London.

COUNT EULENBERG, who killed Prince Alfred's cook at Bonn, has been tried for the offence by court-martial. He was found guilty, and sentenced to nine months' "honourable" confinement in a casemate!

THE HUT OF PATRICK MURPHY, residing in Queen's County, Ireland, was unroofed during the recent gales, and among the debris was found an old horn containing 400 guineas and a number of Spanish dollars.

MR. EDWARD BAXTER, the member for the Montrose Burghs, has declined an invitation to enter the Admiralty as Civil Lord, on the ground that he cannot yet withdraw his attention from the business of which he is the head.

JOHN MITCHELL has arrived in Paris; he has been appointed foreign correspondent to a New York journal. Stephens, the Fenian "Head Centre," is also said to have arrived in Paris.

A WEDDING took place, on Tuesday, in the Temple Church, where weddings have not been solemnised for the last hundred years. It was the marriage of Miss Robinson, daughter of the Master of the Temple, with Mr. Hornby, of Hampshire.

THE SENATE OF CARLSRUHE has decided on renewing M. Benazet's present lease of the gaming-tables in that town, which expires in 1867, for a further term of seven years.

A ROBUST COUNTRYMAN, meeting a physician one day, ran to hide behind a wall. On being asked the cause, he replied, "It is so long since I have been sick that I am ashamed to look a physician in the face."

THE FALL OF RAILWAY VIADUCTS is becoming a common event. One took place at Holmfirth, on the Lancashire line, on Sunday morning. The viaduct consisted of thirteen arches, and was about 200 yards long. Fortunately, nobody was injured.

MR. G. J. SYMONS, of London, writes to urge the importance of keeping records of the fall of rain in different localities, and of communicating the results for comparison. He states that, since 1860, the number of those who keep records has increased from 200 to 1200, of whom he gives a list of eighty in Lancashire.

THE MOORMONS have been holding a conference in Bristol, at which Brigham Young, jun., was one of the principal attractions.

A PORTION OF HELIGOLAND ROCK, it is stated by Hamburg papers, having been long undermined by the sea, fell on Wednesday week, and was engulfed in the waves. Of the 500 inhabitants of the island no less than seventy are said to have perished.

A CORPSE was interred by candle-light near Towbridge the other evening, the clergyman who was to have performed the funeral ceremony in the daytime having forgotten his engagement.

OLD DUDLEY PERSE, of Roxborough, a bold rider and a keen sportsman, after taking a high wall, completely disappeared, there being a "drop" of double the height. When Lord Gort cried out, "What's on the other side, Dudley?" the answer was, "I am, thank God!"

CAPTAIN FOWKE, R.E., the architect of the South Kensington Museum, the Industrial Museum of Scotland, the National Gallery of Dublin, and the building for the Exhibition of 1862, died suddenly, on Monday afternoon, at his official residence at South Kensington. Death was occasioned by the bursting of a blood-vessel; but Captain Fowke had been in declining health for some months.

THE SHENANDOAH, which it was expected would by this time have been safely at New York, on Wednesday steamed into the Mersey. She had met with very rough usage in the Atlantic; and, having lost all her sails and run short of fuel, she put back for repairs.

MR. GATHORNE HARDY, who, at the last election, was returned both for the University of Oxford and the borough of Leominster, has elected to sit for the University; and Mr. Richard Arkwright, a gentleman of some local influence, has been introduced as the Conservative candidate for Leominster.

THE BODIES of the engine-driver and fireman who were drowned the other day on the Neath line by driving a goods-train into the water when the bridge they should have crossed was open, have both been found. There were few or no marks of injury on their persons, showing that their death was occasioned by drowning and not by the fall of the train upon them. An inquest has been opened, but little more than a general inquiry has yet taken place.

A NUNNERY IN LEICESTER-SQUARE.—The premises in which the late Mr. Burford used to exhibit his panoramas, together with some adjoining premises at the north-east corner of Leicester-square, have been purchased by the Benedictine Fathers of the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (the Oratory, Brompton) for the establishment of a sisterhood, the erection of a chapel, and the foundation of a school for Roman Catholic children of both sexes. The Oratory, before its removal to Brompton, was located in King William-street, very near to the new establishment.

MANSSION HOUSE.—The official residence of the Lord Mayor is under going a thorough course of internal embellishment, the Court of Common Council having voted upwards of £1600 for the purpose, which is now being expended under the direction of their general purposes committee. The greater part of this sum will be expended on the decoration of the Egyptian Hall, and the rest of the money will be principally absorbed in the embellishment of the state drawing-rooms, the Long Parlour, and the ball-room on the first floor, which runs across the whole house, parallel with the frontage, and has of late years been used as a supper-room on great occasions. The work will be completed in a few weeks. Simultaneously with the interior restoration the foundations of the building, which of late had given indications of sinking, are being reinstated, though slowly—a work which, it is said, will probably occupy nearly a couple of years, and for which a separate grant has been made by the Court of Common Council. The Mansion House is not more than 125 years old, having been erected in 1739-40, from a design by the elder Dance, the then architect to the Corporation, and whose remains lie near those of Sir Christopher Wren, in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral. The foundations which have exhibited most signs of sinking are those in front of the building supporting the massive portico and entablature, but the decay is being arrested and the work of restoration is proceeding.

MR. GÜSCHEN AND THE CITY.—The acceptance by Mr. GÜSCHEN of the office of Vice-President of the Board of Trade has rendered it necessary that he should vacate his seat as a representative in Parliament for the city of London, and on Saturday he issued an address to the constituency expressing a hope that they will consent to ratify the step he has taken in accepting office under the Crown by re-electing him as one of their members. By the theory and practice of the Constitution, as laid down in the book of Mr. Erskine May, the great authority on such subjects, a fresh election cannot take place until after the expiration of fourteen days at least from the assembling of the new Parliament, or rather the writ cannot be issued until after the time limited for receiving election petitions, which amounts to much the same thing. Of course, there is no question of an election petition in this case; but that is the law and practice applicable to all vacancies, whether there be an election petition or not. According to Mr. May, whenever vacancies occur in the House of Commons from any legal cause, after the original issue of writs for a new Parliament, all subsequent writs are issued out of Chancery by warrant from the Speaker, or, when the House is sitting, by order of the House of Commons; but where a vacancy has occurred prior to or immediately after the first meeting of a new Parliament, or within fourteen days after the return of the member whose seat is vacated, the writ will not be issued until after the time limited for the receipt of the election petitions, which is fourteen days, and no election petition can be received until Parliament shall have assembled. The citizens of London will not, therefore, be called upon in this case to make a fresh election for some time to come. In the mean time, Mr. GÜSCHEN, in his address, remarks upon the office he has accepted standing in close relation with the interests of the great commercial community which it has been his privilege to represent, and upon their having twice before done him the honour of electing him, trusting that the step he has taken will produce no alteration in their sentiments towards him.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

HER MAJESTY, if her health will permit, will open Parliament in person, on the 1st of February. There are, however, to be, we are told, certain modifications of the ceremony. What they are to be, we are not told officially. Rumour says—though I place little confidence in her sayings—that the people are to be excluded from the Royal gallery through which her Majesty has to pass on her way to the House of Lords. On all former like occasions seats have been erected on each side of the gallery, and tickets of admission have been issued to Peers and members of Parliament for distribution amongst their friends; and these seats were always occupied by well-dressed strangers. They could not see the ceremony of opening Parliament, nor hear her Majesty read her speech from the throne; but they could see the Queen and all her attendants—in short, the Royal procession. And this was a great gratification to them. Is, then, this gallery to be closed to the public? Rumour says it is. But why should it be so? No authority can keep our streets clear of gazers. A dense crowd of all sorts of people will throng the pavements in Whitehall, and Parliament-street, and Old Palace-yard, however unpleasant it may be to Majesty to be thus stared at. Why, then, should this small space be kept clear? I cannot believe such an unpopular arrangement as this can have been decided upon.

And now I am on this subject I may notice that in the corridor leading from the Central Hall to the House of Lords, workmen have been employed for a long time in chiselling out the heavy tracery of the stumpy windows over the frescoes, and in substituting plain ground for the coloured glass, which not only obstructed the light, but threw across said frescoes coloured rays that strangely marred the work of the painters. This change would be a great improvement if the frescoes themselves were good. But, alas! costly as they have been to the nation, they are not good; and I am not sure that it would not have been better to adopt the suggestion of one of the members—viz., to exclude the light altogether. However, these pictures are not so bad as those in the Commons' corridor—"The Escape of King Charles II.," for example, and his Landing at Dover; and "Alice Lisle concealing the Fugitives after the Battle of Sedgemoor," the worst of all—and yet these frescoes cost the country some £700 each. "The Acquittal of the Seven Bishops" and "Monk Declaring for a Free Parliament," both by E. M. Ward, for which £200 each was voted on account, are not yet finished. It is to be hoped that these will be more effective; otherwise one would not be sorry to see Time's effacing fingers at work upon them, as they have long been upon the illustrations of English poets up stairs—quietly obliterating them.

Everybody must have heard a good deal of vapour talk of late about the lack of administrative talent in the House of Commons. On both sides of it Sarey Gamp declares that the Whigs are quite used up: "Worked out, my dear. They are at their wits' ends to find men to fill up the vacancies." And one has heard much the same remark in very different quarters. But really there is no lack of administrative talent, but, on the contrary, plenty of it, if it could but be made available. I am not a railway man; but every week I glance over the *Railway News*, which somebody is kind enough to lend me, and I have been of late struck with the enormous amount of administrative talent that there must be in that vast railway world. Take now, the London and North-Western, with its thousand miles of road (and some 1274 is the number), and its Royal revenue of some six millions a year, and say whether the directors of that line who are in the House—and there are several, I believe—are not competent to manage efficiently any department of the State. But I would specially direct attention to a speech delivered by Mr. Edward Watkin, chairman of the Grand Trunk Line of Canada, reported in the *Railway News* of last week. I read this speech through, though I have no sort of interest in the Grand Trunk, and I venture to assert that there is but one man in the Government—to wit, the Chancellor of the Exchequer—who could deliver such a speech. Indeed, as I read it, I was more than once reminded of Gladstone's Budget harangues. It displayed such a grasp of the vast subject with which the speaker had to deal—such a skilful arrangement of his matter—such a perfect knowledge and clear and eloquent exposition of details, that I involuntarily exclaimed "Why, here is a man who, if he could but be got out of the railway business and be persuaded to turn his attention to politics as a profession, might take any department of the State!" The Bishops complain that law and commerce absorb so much of the intellect of our University men that the Church is starved; and doubtless this is true; and I suspect that the same may be said of Government. But we shall cure this last-mentioned evil. We are breaking down the fence which has separated the so-called governing from the mercantile classes. We have a London merchant at the Board of Trade, and a worsted manufacturer at the Colonial Office. And there is a movement on the other side: our nobles are becoming traders. I bought an article the other day in the *Strand* of a limited company, of which the heir of one of our most ancient earldoms is chairman.

Sir George Grey, our Home Secretary, has been making inquiries at the various parish vestries in the metropolis, outside the jurisdiction of the city of London Corporation, with a view, it would seem, to change of some sort; but what shape the change will take nobody can divine. The division of the metropolis outside the City into a number of municipalities is thought by some to be the idea of Sir George—municipalities conterminous with the Parliamentary boroughs, with outlying districts like Chelsea, formed into separate municipalities. But in such case there must be, surely, some plan of united action devised and enforced—in the case, for example, of repairing the roads, opening drains, &c. The police will, of course, remain under the management of the Scotland-yard potentates. However, nothing is known about the intention of Sir George; nor is it, indeed, certain that he has any intention to meddle with the matter. It is clear, though, that something ought to be done, as nothing can be more chaotic than the metropolitan management as it now exists. I rather fancy that the Government, if it should launch a Parliamentary reform bill next Session—and the *Globe* authoritatively asserts that it will—will have enough to do in navigating that safely into port, without undertaking a metropolitan municipal reform. The City is to be left alone: at least, nothing must be whispered about City reform till Mr. GÜSCHEN shall have been safely returned.

I have lately been reading a book intitled "About in the World," and have to say of it that, on the whole, it is very delightful reading. But on the subject of political economy the author displays an ignorance which is very surprising; for example, I find him writing thus in an essay named "The Barbarities of Peace":—"A farm labourer is not poor because he does not till his own land, but because the price of corn is low, and always will be whilst we have to compete with Swedish, French, Russian, Egyptian, and American corn growers. The price in the market of a quarter of wheat always rules the rate of the agricultural labourer's wages. If the farmer got more he would give more, because he would be incited by the reward to spend more labour in his fields, and to make them produce more." Now, not to go into any argument upon this matter of wages, let me point out this simple fact to the author of this book: Wheat is worth now about 5s. a bushel. Before the repeal of the corn laws it was seldom lower than 8s.; and by the Act of 1815 no foreign corn could be imported until the price of home-grown wheat should rise to 10s. a bushel. But the money wages of agricultural labourers are now somewhat higher than they were before the repeal of the corn laws, and are everywhere rising. I am now speaking of the money wages; but when we consider how much bread—on which article a great portion of a labourer's wages is expended—a labourer's wages will buy now, compared with what they would buy before the repeal of the corn laws, we must decide that labourer's wages have risen at least forty per cent; for the average price of bread is now seldom more than 6d., whereas the price before the repeal of the corn laws was rarely below 9d. And then, as to the productiveness of the soil, the writer says that if the farmer got more for his corn he would be incited to spend more labour upon his fields to make them produce more. But

can the writer be unaware of the fact that there is scarcely a farmer in England who does not now get at least one third more produce from his land than was got thirty years ago, and that this is in consequence of his having expended more labour thereon? Why, these are the most astonishing results of free trade—more labour has been called for, the price of labour has consequently risen, land has been more productive, and rents have risen. I am astonished that any Englishman should be ignorant of such patent facts. One of the sturdiest of the old Protectionist squires, conscious of these facts, said to Mr. Cobden only a short time before he died, "Ah! Cobden, you meant all for our good, only we couldn't see it." The writer, then, is clearly wrong in his political economy; and no doubt he will frankly correct this statement in a second edition—which, I should think, will be soon required of so pleasing a book. I think, too, he is wrong when he says that the French, Russian, and German peasants are worse fed and worse lodged than the English peasants. In Russia there is a wonderful revolution going on. It has attracted but little observation, and we have no good book on the subject; but, from private information which I have received, and from an excellent article which lately appeared in the *Reader*, written, as I happen to know, by an accomplished gentleman who lived many years in Russia, it would seem that this revolution—I mean the liberation of the serfs, and lending them the means of buying their holdings—is one of the most extraordinary events, not only of modern, but of all times. The French peasants, too, I should say—having read what Professor Fawcett has written upon the subject, and certain trustworthy travellers—are in every way better off than the English labourer. But here let me tell the author of "About in the World" what I am sure he will be glad to know—namely, that the English labourer's position is improving, and must improve in every way; slowly, perhaps, but surely. The use of steam power is lightening their labour, and stirring up their sluggish minds to think. The scientific farming which they have to carry out is having the same effect. Schools, railways, cheap books and papers, are also acting upon the agricultural mind; and, lastly, landlords are really waking up to the necessity of building comfortable cottages.

Mr. Tidd Pratt has done much good service to the working classes since he was appointed Registrar of Friendly Societies. But perhaps the best service he has ever done is in issuing a little pamphlet, of which I have received a copy, entitled "Suggestions for the Establishment of Friendly Societies on Sound Principles." In spite of all Mr. Pratt's care and all the publicity given to such matters through the press, societies continue to be formed on most unsound principles, and which end, as they needs must, in disappointment and ruin to the contributors, through mismanagement, at least, if not something worse. If the suggestions here made by Mr. Pratt be adopted, the poorer classes will be enabled to make provision, upon a really safe system, against the natural evils and exigencies of sickness, old age, and death, and to act on those principles of mutual assurance and support which are now so generally adopted by the more opulent members of society, and to guard against the many plausible but ruinous schemes by which they are too often deceived. As Mr. Tidd Pratt has done well to write and print his pamphlet, will you permit me to do as well as I can by heartily recommending it to the attention of all your readers?

A meeting of antiquaries has been held at the Chapter House, Westminster, for the purpose of considering the means of restoring the building, which has suffered sadly from the whitewashing and brick-work propensities of curators of the last century. The Dean of Westminster explained that the Chapter House was not Dean and Chapter property, but that the Abbey people would willingly take the matter in hand, if the house were granted to them. It happens somewhat oddly as a coincidence that a letter signed "X. Y. Z.," has since appeared in the *Times*, proposing a public subscription in aid of necessary repairs of Westminster Abbey. Now, the revenues of this cathedral, divided every quarter by the Dean and Chapter, are already enormous. They might be increased to an almost incredible extent, if the property were well managed. As it is, the most valuable ground in the whole world is mainly occupied by the inhabitants of such filthy rookeries as Duck-lane, Peter-street, St. Anne-street, Pye-street, Orchard-street, and a nest of slums of the like or worse kind. The fees charged for interments at the Abbey are exorbitant, yet its curators neither protect the edifice nor the dead interred therein. The Abbey (*teste* X. Y. Z.) is suffering more now than under the quartering of Cromwell's troopers. The grave of Ben Jonson has been despoiled, and the press has been allowed, without contradiction, to publish the fact that his skull has been offered for a public show. The tomb of Chaucer is falling into ruin, and his portrait painted thereon has long been effaced by time, assisted by the neglect of a sacred trust. Fourteen years since it was proposed to renovate it by public subscription, but the design fell through, because everyone could see that it was the duty of those who received the Abbey revenues to preserve its monuments. Only a few weeks since jewels were thrown into Lord Palmerston's grave. They are not there now. A kind of excuse has been made that they were removed to prevent "desecration." If so, who has them now? Does anyone know? Or does anyone know the amount of profit—legitimate or otherwise—periodically shared by the guardians of Westminster Abbey, at present exhibited as a twopenny show? After all, Samuel Butler had an idea when he put into the mouth of Sir Hudibras, for his answer to the question

What makes a Church a den of thieves?

the apt reply—

A Dean and Chapter and white sleeves.

I am glad to see it announced that Government have determined to institute a searching investigation into the late occurrences in Jamaica. This is the best course to take in the interests of all parties. If the negroes have been so deeply implicated as a body in the plots and conspiracies with which they are charged, it is time that measures were taken to suppress such dangerous projects; and, if Governor Eyre and his coadjutors have allowed panic to hurry them into the commission of unnecessary severity, that sort of thing ought also to be checked. Innocent men have nothing to fear from a fair, impartial, and thorough inquiry. It is the business of the public and the press, as well as of Government, to make sure that the inquiry is fair, impartial, and thorough, and to judge neither party prematurely; and I hope this course will be rigidly adhered to.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

There is so very little to be said this week about theatrical matters that it had best be said at once.

"Nothing Venture, Nothing Win," the first piece at the STRAND, is capitally acted, and introduces an actor from the provinces, Mr. Price, who will prove a decided acquisition to the light and lively troupe of the little theatre nearest to Temple Bar.

"The Watch-Cry" is to be withdrawn, "Ruy Blas" is to be played for a few nights, and a new drama is announced for the LYCEUM.

At the OLYMPIC a new drama, founded on one of the most popular of Miss Braddon's novels, is to take the place of "A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing," and "The Cleft Stick."

The forthcoming pantomimes for DRURY LANE and COVENT GARDEN are already advertised, as also is a new burlesque by Mr. Byron for the PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. "Mazepa," "in all its original splendour," still runs at ASTLEY'S.

I hear great things of the professional progress of Miss Milly Palmer, who played at the Strand some few months ago. This young lady has been "starring" in the provinces in Mr. Boucicault's drama of "Arrah-na-Pogue" with great success.

Miss Woolgar has been seriously ill, so seriously as to cause the greatest alarm and anxiety to her friends. Happily, all cause for uneasiness has passed, and by Christmas we may hope to see this admirable actress at the ADELPHI "at home," either in comedy, melodrama, domestic drama, farce, or burlesque.



VIEW OF THE NEW FOREIGN-OFFICE, FROM ST. JAMES'S PARK.

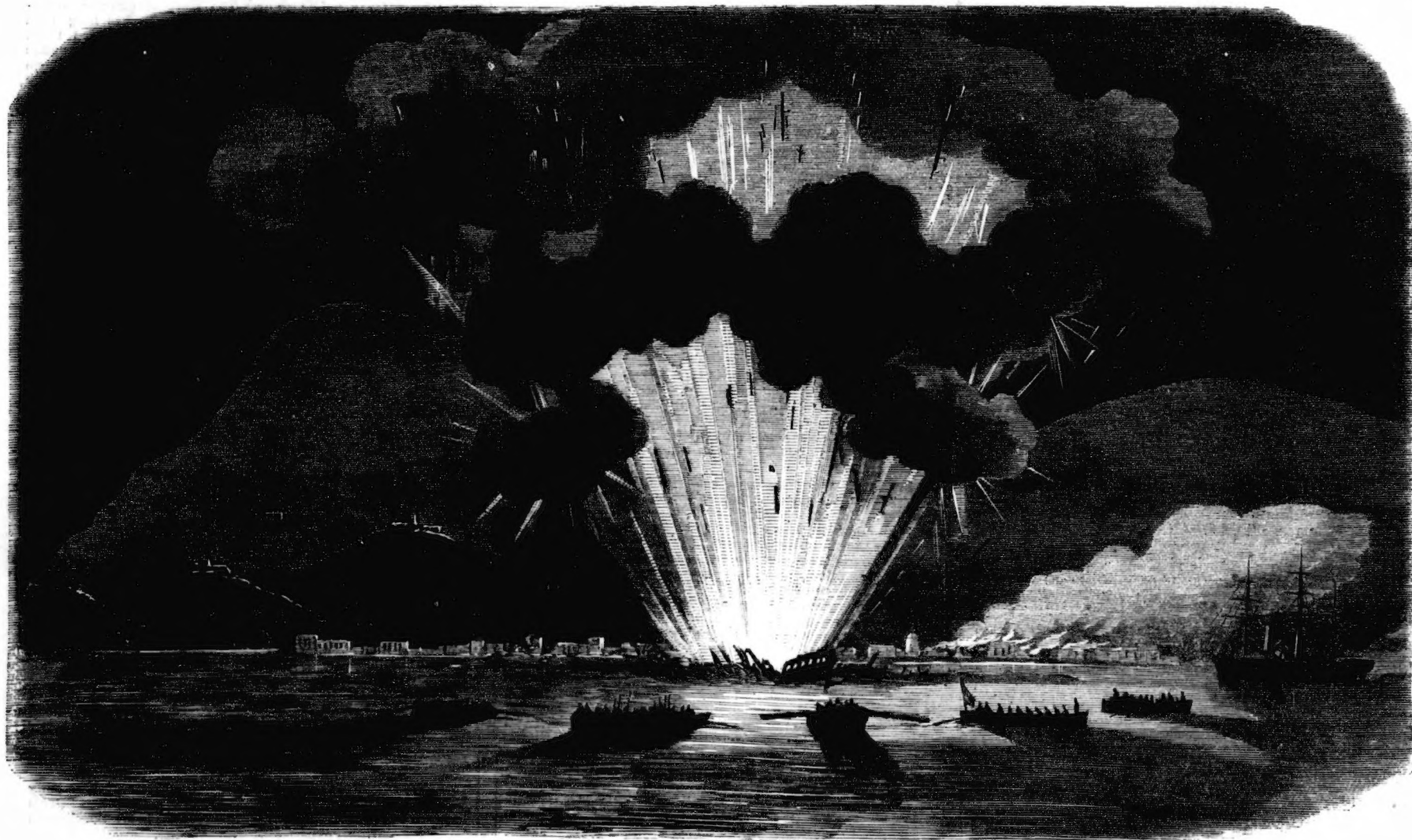
THE LOSS OF H.M.S. BULLDOG.

THE engagement between her Majesty's ship Bulldog and the insurgent forces at Cape Haytien has now been reported in some detail, and we are enabled to construct an intelligible narrative of occurrences which resulted certainly in a naval victory, but which

cost us a man-of-war, and may possibly occasion further trouble. The beginning of the story is still left, unfortunately, in some obscurity; nor can we tell precisely under what circumstances the first offence was committed which provoked the intervention of the British commander. The remainder of the tale, however, is

clear, at least as far as it extends; for the latest intelligence informs us that the work of the Bulldog has been taken up by the Galatea, and that hostile operations have been threatened anew.

On Oct. 22 a Jamaica packet, on her way to Cape Haytien, was, it is said, fired into by a ship of war, called the Valorogue, in the



DESTRUCTION OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP BULLDOG AT CAPE HAYTI, ST. DOMINGUE

service of that portion of the Haytian population which is now in arms against the Government. This insurgent faction is under the rule of a chief named Salnave, who is in possession of Cape Haytien, with its port and its fortifications, and who, it appears, can dispose of a certain naval force. Why, however, one of these ships should have attacked a British packet we cannot say. It is hard to suppose that the offence was absolutely gratuitous, and yet no explanation of it is offered. The cape must have been open, we presume, to foreign vessels, for there were some of them in the harbour, and there were also foreign Consulates in the town, and foreigners of various nations residing there in some numbers. The attack, however, be it what it may, was made within sight of the Bulldog, the Captain of which vessel immediately moved up to the spot, demanded an explanation, and ordered the Valorous to desist. This order was obeyed, and the Valorous retired to the port. From this point the proceedings are very plainly narrated.

Salnave, on being apprised of the incident, retaliated by an attack on the British Consulate. Mr. Dutton, our Consul at the Cape, had extended the protection of his house to some Haytian refugees belonging to the Government party. Salnave demanded the surrender of these people, and, when the demand was refused, burst forcibly into the house, took out the refugees, and shot them instantly on the beach. His troops then returned to the Consulate, gutted it, and destroyed its contents, at the same time tearing down the British flag and stamping on it. Mr. Dutton immediately went off to the Bulldog, and laid the whole affair before the Captain. Captain Wake asked Salnave for an explanation, and received an insolent and defiant reply. Upon this he demanded full satisfaction, adding that if it were not forthcoming within four-and-twenty hours he would exact it himself. It was not forthcoming, and the next day the battle commenced.

At half-past eight in the morning the Bulldog entered the harbour, accompanied by three war-steamers of the Haytian Government. She had to encounter the fire of the fortifications, mounting heavy batteries, and of the rebel men-of-war moored in the harbour. As she passed Fort Cirolet she either received a shot or opened fire herself; but without much delay she steamed on at full speed for the Valorous, which in a few minutes she sent to the bottom. A heavily-armed schooner which came to the rescue met with the same fate. But in these operations, though we cannot say at what period, the Bulldog unluckily grounded on a reef. One account represents the accident as occurring at the very commencement of the action, another as signalling its close. In any case, however, the Bulldog, rue to her name and character, fought on till she had silenced the fire of the forts, dismantled the batteries, and set the buildings on fire. Then, when all was done and retirement was impossible, she was set fire to, and, after the captain and crew had been taken off in one of the Haytian steamers, blew up with a terrific explosion at about ten o'clock at night.

We must now turn to some other circumstances of note connected with the affair. At the Cape lay, among other vessels, the United States steamer De Soto, which took, of course, no active part in the engagement, but which promptly offered her services for the protection of non-combatants and for the reception of our wounded. As early as nine o'clock in the morning a message, though we are not told to what effect, was sent from the De Soto to

the Bulldog, and as the action proceeded the Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and residents of various nations were brought off to the American frigate by her own boats. At twelve o'clock a lieutenant from the De Soto boarded the Bulldog with an offer from her commander to receive and tend the wounded; but at that time Captain Wake thought the removal of the patients would be inexpedient, as they were badly hurt and the ship was under fire. Ultimately, however, the offer was accepted, and the De Soto took on board not only our own wounded, but several of the rebel Haytians who had been picked up by the Bulldog's boats when the Valorous sank. Nor does this

with, and without any conditions, on board the English frigate. We hope that further bloodshed may have been averted by the acceptance of these terms; but the custody of this rebel Administration can hardly be a thing desirable in itself. Of all disputes in the world, the very last we should think of interfering in was that between two factions in San Domingo; and yet it seems likely that we may have captured an entire Cabinet of Ministers, subverted a provisional Administration, and done very decisive service to a more regular Government.—Times.

Our Illustration depicts the blowing up of the Bulldog when aground, after her engagement with the Valorous and the forts, and is from a sketch by a witness of the event.



"THE FIRST MESHES OF THE NET."—(FROM A PICTURE BY HAYLLAR, IN THE SUFFOLK-STREET GALLERY.)

and the story. The present mail informs us that the Galatea had arrived at the Cape in company with the Lily, and that Salnave, on receiving a peremptory summons from the Commander of the British frigate, had sent his Admiral to the De Soto with offers to place the Cape under the American flag in return for protection against our squadron. The proposal was rejected; but, as the mail left three hours before the time allowed to Salnave had expired, we are unable to do more than conjecture the nature of the sequel.

The summons addressed to Salnave by the Galatea was peremptory and decisive. It required that he and the whole revolutionary Government with him should surrender themselves forth-

graceful trees and shrubs drooping into the lake, which looks from a distance like a mirror set round with evergreens. The whole scene is in such good keeping that it would be difficult to suggest any style of architecture which would improve the general effect; so that the public may, after all, congratulate itself on having saved the cost of a more pretentious and possibly a much less convenient building.

"THE FIRST MESHES OF THE NET."

Will the artists ever exhaust the interest of Norman customs and the pictures of real life in that most picturesque of countries? We think not; for its people seem somehow to be allied to us by

THE NEW FOREIGN OFFICE.

THE new Government offices, which are now nearly completed, have been subject to all sorts of adverse criticism, on the ground that they belong to no particular style of architecture, and are merely buildings of an undefined order combining the most common example of modern Italian with the dull aspect of an ordinary London mansion.

It is said, however, that the late Lord Palmerston, who was no mean authority on the subjects of comfort and convenience, set his face against the advice of high-art critics, and held sturdily to the opinion that, as these were only offices intended for the transaction of public business, purity of style, or even definite ornamentation, was of little importance, since neither of them contributed to the actual purpose of the internal arrangements. His Lordship had found that a first-class English house was about the most convenient building for ordinary use; and hinted pretty plainly that nothing more was wanted than a series of good-sized buildings with handsome frontages and compact suites of large, light, and airy rooms, suitably furnished, and easily adapted to the requirements of the various departments to which they were to be devoted.

The most favourable specimen of all the new offices, then, is that intended for the transaction of foreign affairs, which is now nearly finished, and an engraving of which we publish. The building has nothing very striking in its appearance except (if we may use the term) a certain opulence which is represented by the solid central edifice and the two ample wings, the only ornamentation being the balcony-like divisions between the stories and at the base of the roof. Notwithstanding its architectural deficiencies, however, the new Foreign Office is one of the most picturesque buildings in London, because of the position it occupies. The passenger who keeps only to the streets, and has either no leisure or no inclination to step aside in search of artistic points of view, can have no conception of the charming appearance of this piece of water, full of water-fowl and edged with

that sea-salt in their blood which freshens their faces and gives a savour to their characters. The costumes, too, are as piquant as the rare old ballads and the legends as wild and beautiful as the land from which they sprung. Even the little domestic habits and quaint household observances have a charm for us to which those of few foreign countries can lay claim, for in them we seem to be looking backward at the England of the past, and are surprised into a keen personal interest to be explained on no other grounds. Those wonderful caps, for instance, although we laugh at their monstrous proportions and varieties of structure, are not, after all, unfamiliar—not more unfamiliar than those to which we have been accustomed in pictures of English life centuries ago, when such articles of attire were “all carved up and down like an apple-tart;” and their preservation as heirlooms from the fashion of which no departure is permitted, since they mark the distinctions of villages and communities, is just that kind of pride or of self-respect, call it how we may, that appeals to a British instinct. How is it, again, that this Norman costume so helps to heighten the expression of those honest, outspoken faces? It may be hoped that no innovation will materially change it, for it seems to have some subtle effect in enhancing the interest of a simple picture-story by the free, homely grace it imparts to those who wear it. The picture from which our illustration is taken is an example of this; for while we look at the comely figure, and bright, roguish face of the netmaker, we can feel a very genuine sympathy for that hale, ruddy young fisherman who is already caught in the meshes so deftly woven. There is no need to elaborate the story: it is told in his face, where the sudden surprise of love's entanglement is mingled with a look of keenest hope, as he notes the conscious coquetry and pleased affectation of indifference in the bright eyes that follow those swift fingers in their work.

THE EDINBURGH COMMITTEE ON THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

THE Edinburgh Committee on the Cattle Plague, having been commissioned by the Royal Cattle Plague Commission to make observations and experiments in reference to the prevention and treatment of the cattle plague, have considered it desirable, in addition to the experiments on treatment which they propose to institute themselves, to obtain a record of observations and experiments made by as large a number as possible of qualified veterinary practitioners throughout the country. With this view they have drawn out the following suggestions for methods of treatment of various kinds, prophylactic and curative, which they are anxious should be tested on an extensive scale. They have also drawn up a schedule for the purpose of rendering definite the record of the results of the methods of treatment suggested by them. The committee, before specifying the various methods of treatment in detail, would premise a few general remarks which they consider to be applicable to all cases.—1. As to general sanitary measures, disinfection, &c.—The committee content themselves with referring for full information on these matters to the supplement of the Report of the Royal Cattle Plague Commission, which is in the hands of all veterinary inspectors. 2. As to food.—The committee deem it desirable to state it as their opinion that, as a general rule, at all stages of the disease, and whatever treatment is used, food should not be pressed on the affected animal. They believe that too much even of the softest food is hurtful, the powers of digestion being so greatly impaired by the disease. During the earlier stages, they believe that the safest articles of diet are oatmeal gruel, barleymeal gruel, with linseed tea, hay tea, or bran tea, and that little, if any, addition to these is needed. During convalescence, it is also very necessary that the food should be both sparing and of easy digestion. The same diet as during the earlier stages may be continued, with the addition of mashes of well-boiled turnips or carrots, but in moderate quantity. When rumination commences to be re-established, a handful of sound hay damped with salt and water may be given in addition. 3. As to the maintenance of the heat of the animal.—The tendency to chill of the surface is a marked feature of the disease, and it is very essential that the animal should be guarded against cold. The hyre should be kept heated up to a temperature of 65 deg. The animal should be thoroughly rubbed down from time to time, and be kept covered with an ample clean rug fastened on with a roller or band of any kind. 4. As to the state of the bowels.—In the early stages they are apt to be constipated. To remove this condition, mild laxatives may be required, but strong purgatives of all kinds are both unnecessary and unsafe. The best laxatives are either raw linseed oil, in the dose of a chopin-bottleful (an English quart), or from two ounces to three ounces of flower of sulphur, mixed up with two pounds by weight of treacle and two chopin-bottlefuls of water. These doses may be repeated cautiously, according to circumstances. Sometimes, even in the early stages, but more frequently when the disease has continued for some days, diarrhoea or scouring is apt to come on, and to prove irritating and exhausting to the animal. The simplest and best treatment for this symptom is one ounce of laudanum, mixed with a chopin-bottleful of lime-water, repeated twice or even thrice a day, if necessary. Having thus premised these general recommendations, the committee proceed to state in detail particular methods of treatment, classified under the heads of—A, Diaphoretic and stimulant treatment; B, Acid treatment; C, Restorative treatment without drugs; D, Prophylactic treatment. A. Diaphoretic and stimulant.—The committee are anxious to give a full trial to the method of exciting sweating by the means of vapour-bath. The method of using this agent is as follows:—The animal is to be placed in a stall inclosed on all sides, the height of the inclosure being a few inches more than that of the animal. Over the top of the box or inclosure thus formed is thrown a tarpaulin, which should cover it completely, with the exception that an opening is left in it sufficient for the animal's head to pass through. There is then to be placed on the floor of the inclosure, under the animal, a tub containing boiling water to the depth of half a foot. A continuous evolution of steam is to be maintained for half an hour by means of red-hot bricks thrown into the tub one after another. Under the use of this steam-bath, if properly managed, the animal may be expected to become warm and to perspire profusely. After each vapour-bath the animal should be washed with tepid water containing M'Dougall's disinfecting soap, taking care to dry it well after the washing. It should then be covered with an ample rug, kept, as already stated, closely applied to its body by means of a roller or band of any kind. The bath may be repeated either on the same day or following days, according to circumstances. During and after the bath the animal should be allowed a draught of cold water, which helps to promote perspiration. The objects chiefly aimed at by the use of the vapour-bath are to promote the circulation at the surface, to relieve the congestion of the mucous membranes, and to eliminate the poison from the system. Combined with the vapour-bath may be used various other remedies not incompatible with it, but calculated to aid its action. Several of these remedies the committee now proceed to mention, it being, however, understood that only one of them is to be used along with the bath in each case where the experiment is made: they are not to be used together in the same case. A. 1. Oil of turpentine.—This may be administered in doses of four table-spoonfuls, well shaken up with a chopin-bottleful of gruel, and may be given twice a day. This remedy may be expected to act beneficially by its powers of stimulating and of exciting perspiration. It may probably also, in most cases where it is used, supercede the necessity for giving any laxative medicine. A. 2. Infusion of coffee.—The method of preparing this remedy is by infusing two ounces of ground roasted coffee for a quarter of an hour in a chopin-bottleful of boiling water. It must, of course, be allowed to cool somewhat before being administered, and may be given in the above quantity every six hours. In addition to its stimulant and nutritive qualities, the coffee may act beneficially in consequence of the empyreumatic oil and casein which it contains. A. 3. Carbonate of ammonia.—This medicine, which has been found in many cases to act beneficially as a powerful diffusible stimulant, may be administered three times a day, in doses of half an ounce,

either alone or, preferably, combined with three drachms of nitre dissolved in a chopin-bottleful of gruel. B. Acid treatment.—This is suggested in consequence of the alkaline state of the secretions which is found to exist uniformly in the cattle plague. B. 1. Diluted muriatic acid is said to have been successful in Holland. It may be given twice a day in doses of three drachms, mixed with a chopin-bottleful of gruel. B. 2. Vinegar.—This may be used in doses of two ounces, mixed with a chopin-bottleful of gruel, and may be given four times a day. C. Restorative treatment without drugs.—This consists in carrying out in full the sanitary instructions of the Royal Cattle Plague Commission—in regulating the diet according to the instructions already given—in keeping the animal warm, and in administering two chopin-bottlefuls of good Scotch sweet ale three or four times a day. It is desirable that this system should be carried out in a certain proportion of cases, all drugs being rigidly abstained from. D. Prophylactic treatment.—The committee would further desire to draw attention to the importance of experiments being made as to the efficacy of prophylactic (protective) treatment either in preventing the development of the disease or modifying the intensity of the symptoms when the disease becomes developed in animals which have been exposed to the infection. In such cases, of course, all the sanitary measures of the Cattle Plague Commission should be strictly carried out. There may also be given at the earliest possible period prophylactic drugs, of which those most deserving of trial seem to be—D. 1. Sulphite of soda given morning and evening, in doses of one ounce dissolved in a bucketful of water. D. 2. M'Dougall's solution, of which a wine-glassful in a bucketful of water may be given twice a day. D. 3. A mixture of half an ounce of sulphite of soda and two table-spoonfuls of M'Dougall's solution in a bucketful of water may be given twice a day. It would have been easy for the committee to have given a much longer catalogue of methods of treatment, but this would only have been embarrassing to practitioners. In the suggestions made they have sought to combine simplicity, safety, and economy. Whatever the results of the experiments may be, all of them may be easily and cheaply carried out under almost any circumstances. It should be borne in mind that the results of the experiments, whether positive or negative, will be important. The committee, in conclusion, beg to invite communications as to the results of treatment from practitioners, and are prepared to give their best consideration to any plans which may be proposed for experiment. In name of the committee, ANDREW WOOD, M.D., Chairman.

PROPOSED RESTORATION OF THE WESTMINSTER CHAPTER-HOUSE.

ON Saturday last a meeting was held in the old Chapter-house at Westminster Abbey, to consider what steps should be taken for obtaining the restoration of this memorial of early English civilisation. The chair was occupied by the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster, and among those present were Earl Stanhope, Lord Lyttelton; the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper, the First Commissioner of her Majesty's Office of Works; Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P.; the Right Hon. Sir Page Wood, the Rev. the Sub-Dean (Lord John Thynne), the Very Rev. Canon Bickersteth, the Deans of Chichester and St. Paul's; Mr. Tite, M.P.; Mr. Goodwin, and Mr. De Morgan.

The chairman opened the proceedings by giving the history of the Chapter-house. It was a remarkable coincidence, he said, that the original Chapter-house was erected just 800 years ago this year, the date of its erection being given as 1065, and for three centuries it was used by the monks as a Chapter-house. In 1365 it was first adapted as a meeting-house for Parliament, so that it was, in fact, the cradle of our Constitutional government and liberties. The house remained the meeting-place of Parliament until the reign of the eighth Henry—namely, until the time of the great Reformation, when it became the Record Office of the kingdom, and so remained until the removal of the records, a few years since, to the new Record Office in Fetter-lane. The very rev. gentleman pointed to the desolate condition of the house now, it being left with all the dusty fittings of the Record Office, and said that a place of this historical and archaeological interest should not be thus neglected; and the Antiquarian Society had convened this meeting with a view of adopting some measures whereby the neglect of former times might be remedied.

Mr. G. Gilbert Scott was then called upon by the chairman, and he at once proceeded to give some account of the house. The date of the present structure was not a matter of doubt or mystery, for it was recorded by Matthew Paris and other authorities that, in 1245, Henry III. undertook, at his own cost, the erection of a portion of St. Edward the Confessor's structure. The building being one marking the epoch of a great transition, the perfection of the fully developed window tracery, and one of the earliest specimens in this country, it was important to know when it was first commenced; and by the records it was shown that in 1253, eight years after the commencement of the work, certain material was bought to fill up the windows, so it appeared to be coeval with La Sainte Chapelle, at Paris, with which it accords perfectly in style. He pointed to the present condition of these beautiful windows—decayed, mutilated, and blocked up with brick. The building had exquisite vestibules, and these were as much disfigured as the windows. He then proceeded to give a detailed account of the architecture of the building, which he described as very beautiful, and then said that if those present wanted to know how decay, mutilation, misuse, and equal, continued over a period of three centuries, had reduced what was once one of the noblest of interiors to a disfigured wreck, they had only to “look around.” He went on to show that a perfect and faithful restoration could be effected, and resumed his seat amid loud cheers.

Earl Stanhope proposed, “That this meeting shares the regret experienced by the meeting convened by the Society of Antiquaries in May, 1862, that nothing had been done to repair the noble Chapter-house, Westminster, which is rich in archaeological and historical interest.”

The Very Rev. the Dean of St. Paul's seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P., said he addressed the meeting as the mouth-piece of the architects of England, and he could say that they were as enthusiastic for the restoration of this noble building as the antiquaries. He had been asked to propose this resolution, “That this meeting anxiously desire to impress upon her Majesty's Government, and upon both Houses of Parliament, the propriety of restoring the Chapter-house, without delay, to its original architectural beauty.” He said that foreigners reproached us with allowing—what was not allowed in a despotically-governed country—our national monuments to decay, and he urged that we should take speedy steps to show that we were quite equal to any kingdom or empire in the world in our love for our memorials of bygone times. This restoration would cost some £20,000 or £30,000, let them say £30,000, and the House of Commons, which had spent many times this sum on people's parks, would not grudge the sum.

Sir E. Head seconded the resolution, which was also carried.

The Right Hon. Sir Page Wood then proposed a third resolution (which was agreed to), reappointing the committee, with some additions, with power to form a deputation to wait upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Tite, M.P., the Dean of Chichester, and Lord Lyttelton.

GREAT FIRE IN LIVERPOOL.—One of the most destructive fires that has happened in Liverpool for several years took place there late on Friday night week. Compton House is a large silk mercery establishment, the property of Mr. Jeffreys, and was considered one of the most fashionable shops in the town. Late in the evening flames were seen to burst out from a portion of the premises, and, though no fewer than seventeen fire-engines were drawn together—two of them worked by steam—the flames could not be subdued till the extensive premises and all their costly, but combustible, contents were consumed. The premises in the neighbourhood were in great danger, but were happily preserved. It is said Mr. Jeffreys' stock was insured to the extent of £200,000, and that this sum, large as it is, but inadequately represents his loss.

GOVERNMENT OF THE METROPOLIS.—A meeting of the St. James's vestry, specially convened, was held, on Tuesday, to consider the following motion, submitted by Mr. Beal:—“That it be a representation through the Metropolitan Board of Works to the Home Secretary that it is desirable to consolidate the vestries of Westminster into one municipal body; that it is desirable to extinguish the powers of the Middlesex magistrates over the metropolis and to effect the following changes:—To establish a municipal authority in each Parliamentary borough, merging all vestries within the boundary therein; to extinguish the Metropolitan Board of Works as at present constituted, and in place thereof to form a Metropolitan Council, elected from the several municipalities, to whose charge should be intrusted the work now done by the Metropolitan Board of Works, partly what is done by the City Corporation, and all that is done by the Middlesex magistrates in larger districts; that the city of London should be merged in such Metropolitan Council, and the Lord Mayor act as chairman; that to carry this reform the metropolis be declared a county by itself, having transferred to it all bridges, lunatic asylums, gaols, and courts of law, with nominations of all coroners, election of sheriffs, appointment of stipendiary magistrates, control of police, and all powers and authorities now vested in the several bodies exercising jurisdiction in the metropolis.” After considerable discussion, it was decided that in a matter of such vast importance it was desirable that no one district should act by itself, but that the advice and co-operation of all the governing bodies of the metropolis should be obtained.

Literature.

Parable, or Divine Poesy. Illustrations in Theology and Morals. Selected from Great Divines, and Systematically Arranged. By R. A. BERTRAM. London: F. Pitman.

This is, perhaps, as good a collection of the kind described in the title as anyone is likely to get, and that simply because the people who would be the most competent to make one are not likely to undergo the necessary trouble, probably because they are capable of making their own illustrations, and would at all events feel hampered in any attempt to use those of others. Mr. Bertram, whose labour has the merit of entire disinterestedness, hopes his collection may prove useful to hard-worked preachers, as tending to “foster the faculty of illustration,” as furnishing “outlines of sermons,” and enabling such persons to “make the noblest thoughts of great thinkers their own.” Besides all this, he thinks it will make a readable book for Sunday evenings.

We observe, with some dismay, that Mr. Bertram includes people like Henry Ward Beecher among his “great divines.” We omit inferior living names on *this side of the Atlantic*. Now, the greatest masters of “parable, or divine poetry” that ever lived were, beyond all question, Jeremy Taylor and Thomas Fuller. In this collection Fuller is quoted twice, and twice only; Jeremy Taylor thirty-five times only; while Henry Ward Beecher is quoted 160 times, and at great length—more frequently than any other “divine” who is included. The claims of Henry Ward Beecher to rank as a “great divine” are too ridiculous for serious discussion. He is a cross between Mr. Tupper and Mr. Spurgeon, with a large infusion of Yankee humour and Yankee culture. We open the book at random. On page 181 we find the almost omnipresent Beecher; and what does he say? “It was not permitted to the old Jew to marry out of Jewry and take a heathen woman, no matter how beautiful, or virtuous, or great she was. There might be single exceptions, as in the case of Ruth; but the law remained.” This is one of the coolest things ever uttered by a “great divine.” If the reader will turn to Deuteronomy, chap. xx. ver. 14, and chap. xxi. ver. 10 to 14, he will find express and detailed directions for the marriage of Jews to captives taken in war. It so happens that, in the same extract, Mr. Beecher is, according to his custom, “scientific” upon what he calls the “laws” of marriage, and he contrasts the care of the farmer about his stock with the carelessness of most men in marrying:—“When it is a horse, the kind is very important; but when it is an immortal soul, anything will do.” Again, upon pages 127, 128, in dealing with the great topic of “Responsibility for Belief,” Mr. Beecher has some highly “scientific” sentences about a “misguided sincerity.” We call the attention of intelligent readers to such expressions of opinion on the part of this “great divine” (and they are numerous with him). We do not doubt the “misguided sincerity” of Mr. Beecher, but we are sure that the fatalism of scientific “law” cannot live in the same house (or in the same head, unless it be a muddled one) with opinions like Mr. Beecher's. Really, people must choose sides. We understand Professor Tyndall, or Mr. Bain, or Mr. Huxley, just as we understand a “great divine” like Jeremy Taylor; but you can't have it both ways.

The matter is of such infinite importance that we will have no mistake about it. Mr. Beecher is a “great divine,” whose works sell by scores of thousands in England. Now, on pages 127-8 of this book, we find a passage which distinctly, and even savagely, asserts that the sphere in which belief is formed is exactly similar to that in which wheat is sown; and on page 181 we find another in which the production of an “immortal soul” is placed side by side with the production of a horse, and is said to be in the same way the result of known “laws.” This may be very good “science,” but it is queer Christianity. Fatalism or Free-will? take your choice; but you must choose. Really, so great a divine should be capable of co-ordinating his opinions a little better.

Rates and Taxes, and How they were Collected. Edited by T. HOOD, &c. London: Groombridge and Sons.

The titlepage of this entertaining volume is the only one to which people will be inclined to object. It does not carry with it the sound of being “suitable for a Christmas present,” and, until the name of Mr. Hood appeared, we expected one of those dull things called “Handy Books” on a subject defying analysis or description. Indeed, it is not unlike many jokes which are apt to be totally misunderstood until it be discovered that they are jokes. However, Mr. Hood humorously looks out for a commercial success on the ground that “Rates and Taxes are, alas! things that come home to every man;” and they could not possibly come in a pleasanter form than the present. To understand the plan it is only necessary to imagine a parochial club consisting of the functionaries who collect such things as dog taxes and water rates, and who in turn tell a story to divert the general party. These stories are written by the six gentlemen who this time last year combined to produce the collection of tales called “A Bunch of Keys;” and “Rates and Taxes” may be looked upon as a second issue of what we hope may be continued annually.

Mr. Thomas Archer opens the proceedings with a happy sketch of the “United Parishes of St. Barabbas and Ananias the Less,” the unity between the two being on the principle described in the “Biglow Papers,” a “general union of total dissent.” A clique of small people manage to set sect against sect and class against class, whilst, of course, there is sufficient love-making amongst the good people, sufficiently opposed by the bad. This false state of things is gradually overturned by the Rev. Cyril Smith, the new Curate, a broad Church hero, generally bearing a strong resemblance to Mr. Kingsley's favourites. This gentleman converts the Chartist cobbler, and offers him pipes and beer in his own study; and when the cobbler is ashamed to take the pipe he becomes sceptical as to his ideas of equality. The Curate shows, in a manner not unlike Mr. Browning, in prose as well as verse, that men do not need not differ much; and when he performs “prodigies of valour” at a great fire, the people of the two parishes agree that they cannot do better than copy their pastor. And the young people prove to have been married long ago!

No need to destroy the interest of six tales. Mr. W. J. Prowse tells beautifully the story of a young hero-worshiper and heroine-worshiper, who is cheated out of his enthusiasm and love for a time only to become strengthened and cleared, and happier than he ever expected to be. Mr. Tom Hood takes us into the society of dogs and cats, who have a story of their own, and no inconsiderable moral. He does not, however, neglect human beings; but his dogs are his real characters, and the humour with which he enters into their supposed feelings is of a very high stamp. In the character of the “Poor-rate” Mr. T. W. Robertson tells a tale which everybody will admire, about a subject which no orderly person could approve—an honest love-match between people belonging to widely different classes, and what came of it for good or for evil. Single-blessedness in the Temple does not sound like a new subject; but Mr. W. S. Gilbert makes it perfectly original, comic, and serious, by the strange series of characters which he presents. Two gentlemen, “chumming” on the third floor in Garden-court, are interrupted in their burlesque writing by two ladies, elderly and young, who invade them in hopes of finding shelter from a ruffian. How these gentlemen comfort themselves under these trying circumstances, and their humanity generally, is told with commendable ease and an air which seems to carry life in it. The volume concludes with a “Policeman's Manuscript,” by Mr. Clement W. Scott. This is the strongest of the series, and might have borne considerable expansion. Beyond that, it is a story of love and hate, with a duel and quarrels of all kinds; with, for a time, something worse—it would be wrong to hint at the story. It displays considerable skill in construction, and, as we have said, the solid foundation would have borne more. We must remind Mr. Scott that in his principal incident he is on very dangerous ground. Sir Edward Lytton stumbled on something like it five and twenty years ago; and then he had the fame of half a dozen successes to prop him up.

The “Bunch of Keys” readers will not be slow at getting

"Rates and Taxes." It is a well varied and entertaining volume. Mr. Paul Gray supplies a fine Crimean War snowpiece for frontispiece.

Little Foxes; or, the Insignificant Little Habits which Mar Domestic Happiness. By Mrs. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE. London: Bell and Daldy.

To inculcate, by a course of "household sermons," supposed to have been delivered by a father to his children during the evenings of a dreary winter, those domestic virtues which contribute to the happiness of humankind, has been the laudable desire of Mrs. Stowe in this excellent little volume. In order to accomplish this object the writer has had recourse to an ingenious contrivance by which she points out some of the chief causes of family unhappiness, and how, by avoiding them, home may be preserved as that "noble institution" it was ever intended to be. The paterfamilias of the book is supposed to have found, at the bottom of a pamphlet-barrel (an article certainly better understood in America, where the work was originally published, than in this country), the text of a discourse preached by his wife's great-great-grandmother. This text ran thus—"Take us the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes." Pursuing her theory, Mrs. Stowe describes these foxes as seven in number, as Noah did his clean beasts in the ark, and consisting of Faultfinding, Irritability, Repression, Selfwill, Intolerance, Discourteousness, Exactness. These various subjects form the title of so many essays, which assume, in great part, the characteristics of domestic tales, and on each theme the writer discourses in such a manner as to evolve a moral from her teachings. It may well be imagined, from the former writings of Mrs. Stowe, that the experience of a well-trained life has been ably brought to bear in these pages towards the illustration of many excellent problems, which often perplex the hearts and heads of people who wish to be happy, but adopt a means of becoming so which produces precisely the opposite effect. If married couples and the various members of a domestic household would endeavour to follow the excellent precepts and examples which Mrs. Stowe has laid down in this very novel mode of treating "little foxes," there would be a comparatively small amount of irritability, self-will, and the other faults of temperament, the exposure and eradication of which actuated her in the performance of this instructive and salutary task. Were it not that the author has partially introduced the dramatic element into her narratives, and has sometimes clothed her materials in the hues of romance, the contents of her book might not inaptly be termed "Lay Sermons," for in almost every page there are admirable bits of advice and sound morality which would well benefit the pulpit. The English reader has good reason to thank the publishers for having brought from the other side of the Atlantic a work containing so much that is capable of improving the understanding and the heart. By way of setting an example of international justice, a prefatory notice has been affixed to the book saying that, "from a desire to respect the moral right of every author to reap the fruits of his or her pen, the publishers have made arrangements to share the profits of this reprint of 'Little Foxes' with the writer." In such a case it may well be hoped that these "little foxes" may find their way into innumerable households.

Irish Coast Tales of Love and Adventure. By Captain L. ESMONDE WHITE. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

This is a single volume, which looks remarkably like one out of three ordinary volumes. In no way, however, is it ordinary; but, on the contrary, has much freshness and other good qualities. It is divided into two stories—"The Black Channel of Cloughnagown," and "The Lovers of Ballyvookaw," and so at once it will be seen that the necessary element of brevity has been attained. The west coast of Ireland—solid rocks wherein runs the "Black Channel," which none but the oldest inhabitant is able to navigate—and the decks of an English man-of-war and a slaver on the African station, supply scenery for the first story. This is principally taken up with the boldest of smuggling, the prettiest of adopted daughters, and the wildest revenge on the part of a deserter who has been betrayed by an old friend whom he had defeated in love. The second tale is equally exciting, although, strangely enough, the incidents in both are very similar. This time the scene is on the southern coast of Ireland, and fishing and smuggling are the rule. Again, one young fellow is successful over another in love, and when the successful one is at sea in a smuggling-vessel, a betrayal to his Majesty's Coast Guard is the consequence. The love-making cannot fail to satisfy the quiet order of readers; and, for the lovers of daring, each story contains a splendid sketch at sea, with exhibitions of nautical skill perhaps a little too professional for circulating libraries, and terminating with catastrophes most picturesquely described. Short stories so well told are rare indeed, and Captain White would find little difficulty in satisfying the more exacting amongst readers of fiction. The minuteness of the two sea-fights is certainly a kind of literary waste to which it is, however, hard to object; but we would, in all seriousness, recommend a little less faithful adherence to the mysteries of the Irish language. In many places passages are wholly unintelligible, whilst the English is pure and vigorous writing.

BOOKS FOR JUVENILES AND CHILDREN.

It is a fortunate thing that "Christmas comes but once a year." Good things are so plentiful at this time that we are all apt to get surfeited—both physically (or stomachically) and mentally. For our own part, we have such a pile of good Christmas books for children before us, that did we not take very small doses, we should certainly get cloyed by very excess of sweets. So, readers and publishers must be good enough to pardon us if we treat the several books before us in a homeopathic manner; and the first infinitesimal taste we shall give is of

Fairyland; or, Recreations for the Rising Generation. By the late THOMAS and JANE HOOD. Second Edition. London: Griffith and Farran.

This is a second edition of a book already well and favourably known. It is a collection of fairy tales told by the late Thomas Hood and his amiable wife to amuse and instruct their children, by whom the stories have been reported, if we may be allowed the expression, from memory, and very prettily illustrated by T. Hood, jun. The book is full of genial love and fine fancies, but perhaps its most pleasing feature is the hearty and devoted filial attachment of the Hood family for the memory of their parents. This feeling is prominent throughout the introduction, which, for that reason, constitutes, perhaps, the best lesson-teaching portion of the whole work, and is worth a hundred set sermons on filial piety. We heartily commend this second edition of "Fairyland" to the attention of gift-givers, and hope it may reach many more editions, which it thoroughly deserves to do.

Aunt Emma. By the Author of "Rose and Kate." London: Routledge and Sons.

This is a continuation of the author's previous story of "Rose and Kate," and teaches a great many good principles, the most prominent of which is that people should learn to control themselves—a very old lesson, but still much needed both by juveniles and their elders. The book is ornamented by a frontispiece and titlepage, both prettily coloured.

Featherland; or, How the Birds Lived at Green Lawn. By GEORGE MANVILLE FENN. London: Griffith and Farran.

This is one of the best books for children we have seen for a long time. The author has evidently studied the habits and characteristics of the various English birds with great care, and has succeeded wonderfully in delineating their dispositions. He makes each sort of bird talk and act just as one would expect it to do. There is, moreover, a fine vein of humour running through the book. You perceive that there is a comic element in bird nature which is thoroughly enjoyable as exhibited in these pages. We cannot help

thinking, too, that there is pervading the work a covert satire upon the foibles of another race of bipeds which are not feathered—we mean men. In fact, there is a double meaning in the book; one requires to "read between the lines" in order to gather the full purport of what Mr. Fenn says; and it is well worth our pains to do so. The descriptions of the public meetings of the feathered sages in their Parliamentary assemblies—the cedar-tree—might be paralleled in other deliberative assemblies of greater pretence. The excuse of the daw for letting the prisoner cuckoo escape while preparations were making for his trial, is admirable, and we commend it to the attention of the prison authorities in Dublin from whose custody Mr. Head Centre Stephens stepped off so neatly. Jack, the astute daw, on being charged with having been asleep upon his post, exclaims:—"Asleep! Nonsense! Pooh—tchah! Who ever heard of such a thing? Only thinking, my dear Sir—only thinking; and I think so much better with my eyes shut and the light shaded from them." Altogether, this is an excellent book, and, by-the-by, is very nicely illustrated by Mr. F. W. Keyl.

The Fairy Tales of Science. A Book for Youth. By JOHN CARGILL BROUGH. With Illustrations by C. H. Barnett. London: Griffith and Farran.

This is a second and revised edition of a work which originally appeared several years ago, and which was noticed in these columns at the time. The present edition is excellently printed and neatly bound, and will make an admirable present for youths of an inquiring but not too credulous character. These "fairy tales," of course, do not pretend to teach the precise facts of science; though in Mr. Brough's pages these facts, clothed in elegantly-written romance, are made attractive; but, as we have said, the work is not exactly fitted for the perusal of that class of youthful students who are disposed to accept everything they find in a book as true. With this slight caution, we recommend the "Fairy Tales of Science" to our juvenile readers, who, if they are not made much wiser by reading them, will certainly be greatly amused.

Ernie Elton, the Lazy Boy. By ELIZABETH EILLOART. London: Routledge and Sons.

This little work teaches another old and useful lesson—namely, that "idle folks take most pains," which is very well taught indeed. "The lazy boy" is described as so thoroughly indolent that he never thought, "Thinking," says Ernie, "is almost as bad as working; and what's the use of working yourself if you can get anyone else to do it for you?" A very common bit of philosophy in life. Cobbett somewhere says that nobody would work if it were not for the fear of starvation. Luckily, such a fear does exist, and compels people to work; else, how would the world's affairs go on? Much worse, we fear, than even Ernie Elton found his affairs do.

The Island of the Rainbow: A Fairy Tale, and other Fancies. By Mrs. NEWTON CROSLAND. London: Routledge and Sons.

This is a real bright bit of fairy literature. The book opens with an account of "how the Fairyland's end was broken off" and became the "Island of the Rainbow," and what was done in it. We have then a chapter about "King Neptune and Queen Mab," and another on the "Rainbow Steps;" the book finishing with the "Legend of St. Christopher," and an interpretation of "What the wind said to the children." A capital book for young folk, with an engraving showing the great court ladies of Fairyland dancing on a "smooth elastic spider's web."

The Two School-Girls, and other Tales. By the Authors of "The Wide, Wide World," "My Brother's Keeper," &c. London: Routledge and Sons.

If judged by its size, this book should not perhaps be classed with "juvenile books," for it makes a respectable-looking volume of 468 pages; but as the contents are of the same class as less pretentious works, it must take its place here. The authors are already well known in literature, and it will be sufficient to say that their present production is worthy of their other writings. The book will furnish useful and instructive, if slightly too "serious," reading for winter evenings. Some good coloured illustrations are sprinkled through the volume.

Try and Trust. By L. S. N., Author of "Arthur Morland." London: Routledge and Sons.

The authoress of this little work bespeaks for it a charitable reception, and in doing so says that "she has ventured to sow a seed of the grain so necessary for well-being here and happiness hereafter; and if one thoughtless mind is roused from its lethargy, or one child is led to contemplate what the aim of his life should be, the authoress will be richly rewarded, and sincerely thankful that her pen should have done the work." A modest desire, which, we are quite sure, she will be certain to have gratified, as she assuredly deserves to do. The book is very carefully written, and is full of "most excellent matter." The frontispiece and engraved titlepage are both pretty.

The Standard Poetry-book. Selected from the best Authors. London: Routledge and Sons.

This collection of poetical extracts commences with Tennyson's "Lady Clara Vere de Vere," and proceeds to place before the reader specimens from nearly every British poet of eminence. The selections have been judiciously made, and will tend both to induce a love of good poetry and to improve the style of reading of young people. If we might hint at a fault, we would say that the book is somewhat too solemn. A judicious admixture of humorous pieces might with advantage have been introduced, so as to relieve the continual strain of the grand and solemn tone which pervades the volume—a strain which will be apt to become tiresome to young minds.

Mamma's Morning Gossips; or, Little Bits for Little Birds. By Mrs. FRANCES F. BRODERIP. London: Griffith and Farran.

This book consists of a series of easy lessons for a month in words of one syllable, with a story for each week, and is designed as a help to teaching very young children. The lessons are all exceedingly useful, are well constructed, and, we should think, admirably adapted to answer their purpose. The weekly stories are very interesting, and cannot fail to arrest the attention and reward the diligence of the "little birds" of the domestic nest. The book is nicely illustrated by the brother of the authoress, Mr. T. Hood.

From Messrs. Ward, Lock, and Tyler we have received a series of five books for very young children, very nicely printed in colours, with illustrations in the same style. The series includes the genuine old nursery favourite, *Mother Hubbard and her Wonderful Dog*, with splendid pictures showing all the doings of the memorable pair. *Cock Robin* tells, by verses and pictures, the story of the death of that feathered favourite by the hand of the wicked sparrow. *The Comical Cat* is seen by the pictures to have been a very remarkable cat indeed; making a pie, playing the fiddle, beguiling the rats into dancing a quadrille, plying the distaff, and so on, in most brilliant colours. The affecting story of *Little Jenny Wren* affords the opportunity of presenting an old friend in a new fashion; while *The House that Jack Built* is shown to have been really a very extraordinary house. The illustrations to these old favourites have been carefully printed by Mr. Edmund Evans, and will certainly make them thoroughly welcome to little toddlers.

Messrs. Dean and Son send us four contributions to the literature designed for the nursery. *The Jolly Old Man who Sings Down, Derry Down*, is got up in quite an original style, and will be sure to elicit peals of laughter. *Black Jokes and Broken for Country and Town*, is, as its title imports, rather a dark production, but is well worthy to have light thrown upon it. *Arithmetical Tables designed for the Young* may be chanted or sung, for they have been put into rhyme—a circumstance which will help to fix them in the memory. *Red Riding Hood* is both a book and a toy, and in either form will be welcome.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

There seems to be some misunderstanding abroad about the meaning of the expression "cockney literature" when used in criticism. Briefly and roughly speaking, cockney writing is writing which depends for its interest upon trivial and temporary accidents of life in cities.

All the magazines seem to have taken a musical fit. I have had occasion to speak with delight of one or two musical articles recently, and no, lo and behold! as Mersey or Christiana (which was it?) said, we have music everywhere.

In reviewing a book on Dreams recently, I called attention to some omissions, and among them that of the Vision of Charles XI. of Sweden. This is now related in the *St. James's Magazine*, with the signature of "O.D.," which is, no doubt, O'Delepierre.

Generally, this month, the magazines are very good. *Blackwood* contains one of those remarkable money articles ("Our Invisible Capital") for which we are so often glad to be indebted to it; a most felicitous and well-thought article on "Educators;" and a very good instalment of Cornelius O'Dowd. From him let us take a sentence or two about the late Premier:—

LORD PALMERSTON WAS NOT A WIT.

The great statesman we are now mourning has not escaped the indiscreet zeal of ill-advised admirers. Not satisfied to chronicle the genial traits of a charming nature—not content to dwell upon the graceful qualities by which friends were won and adversaries were conciliated—they insist upon presenting him to us as a sayer of smart things—sharp, pungent, and epigrammatic.

Now Lord Palmerston had not a particle of wit. There is not on record one saying of his which might not have been uttered by any member of his Cabinet; and this is to say all that need be said.

He was the essence of a "man of the world;" but it was the "man of the world" elevated by great cares and great duties; accustomed to deal with the weightiest interests and the grandest themes, his good-sense stimulated to its highest exercise, and his elastic temperament pressed, but not crushed, by the weight upon it.

To this I will add, on my own "hook," that the best things of Lord Palmerston were not original.

The finest "musical" paper I have ever read is in the *Cornhill*—I would except one of the best known of Hoffmann's "Fantasiestücke," if I had read it, but I haven't; I have only looked at it. However, this "Joseph Heywood" is a most delightful fellow (except when he prozes), and, long as his paper is, the editor did well to insert it. Here is

A REMINISCENCE OF ABRAHAM.

My first oratorio was a memorable event in my life. I thought it so then, with life before me: I think it so still, looking back upon it now that I have lived. We were to have the "Israel in Egypt." We flew along the lobby, and, hastily taking our places in the dress circle, came in for the concluding bars of a magnificent chorus. After which, a little thick-set man, with a light brown wig all over his eyes, a generally common appearance, and most unmistakably Jewish aspect, got up to sing one single line of recitative. He stood with his head well on one side, held his music also on one side and far out before him, gave a funny little stamp with his foot, and then proceeded to lay in his provision of breath with such a tremendous shrug of his shoulders and swelling of his chest that I very nearly burst out laughing.

He said, "But the children of Israel went on dry land," and then he paused, and every sound was hushed throughout that great space; and then, as it carved out upon the solid stillness, came those three little words, "Through the sea!" And our breath failed, and our pulses ceased to beat, and we bent our heads, as all the wonder of the miracle seemed to pass over us with those accents—awful, radiant, resonant, triumphant! He sat down while the whole house thundered its applause. I turned to Philip Warde, in speechless agitation. "Bravum!" said he, wiping his eyes.

I have not room for some passages from a most amusing paper about Richardson the Showman; but it may be as well to say that I don't believe the anecdotes; no, not a bit! Such stories can be manufactured by the yard.

Temple Bar, again, is good—very good. Its musical paper is about Weber; and then it goes off into Patent Law, in a capital article, full of knowledge of the subject, with a well-deserved word of praise for Mr. Woodcroft, a most able officer of the Patent Department. "Two Poets of England" contains some admirable criticism, with which, too, I entirely agree (though criticism may be good without one's agreeing with it). It is quite true what this charming, chatty "C." says of Landor, compared with Tennyson—namely, that he has the Greek simplicity, which Tennyson has not. However, that does not exhaust the subject. In chapter ii. of "Land at Last," Mr. Yates has written one of the boldest and most powerful scenes I ever read in a novel. After that, which is not a "compliment," but a sincere expression of strong admiration, he will forgive me if I condemn such phrases as "facial presentments," "that fearful night," "drink of the beauty and the witchery," and similar commonplaces; simpler and plainer words would be far more worthy of so strong a conception as that of this scene. I have, moreover, no hesitation in saying that either after the "rapid steps" or the "hard and defiant," on page 88, a paragraph is wanted to raise the key a little—a paragraph of pause call it—and also that the last paragraph on page 96 is a failure. In periodical writing we scribes cannot help now and then a bit of weak filling in, for the work must be done to time, languor or no languor, headache or no headache; but when a novel is reprinted a little additional care may be taken.

London Society is much as usual—light, easy, often suggestive, and never too lengthy—a great merit! Mr. Du Maurier's illustration, "Ticklish Ground," is capital. Was ever anything more natural than those ladies and that old gentleman at the door?

The *Shilling Magazine* has, like Mrs. Dombey, made an effort, and, at last, exhibits itself in a number worthy of all praise. Welcome to the Arthur Hughes woodcuts to "Enoch Arden!" Welcome to Marguerite Anne Power, in her beautiful idyll! Welcome to Frances Power Cobbe, in her startling ghost-story, "The Spectral Ront!" But who would have expected it of the author of "Intuitive Morals?" Of M. A. Power the general public knows a great deal less than she deserves. Her poem has great merit.

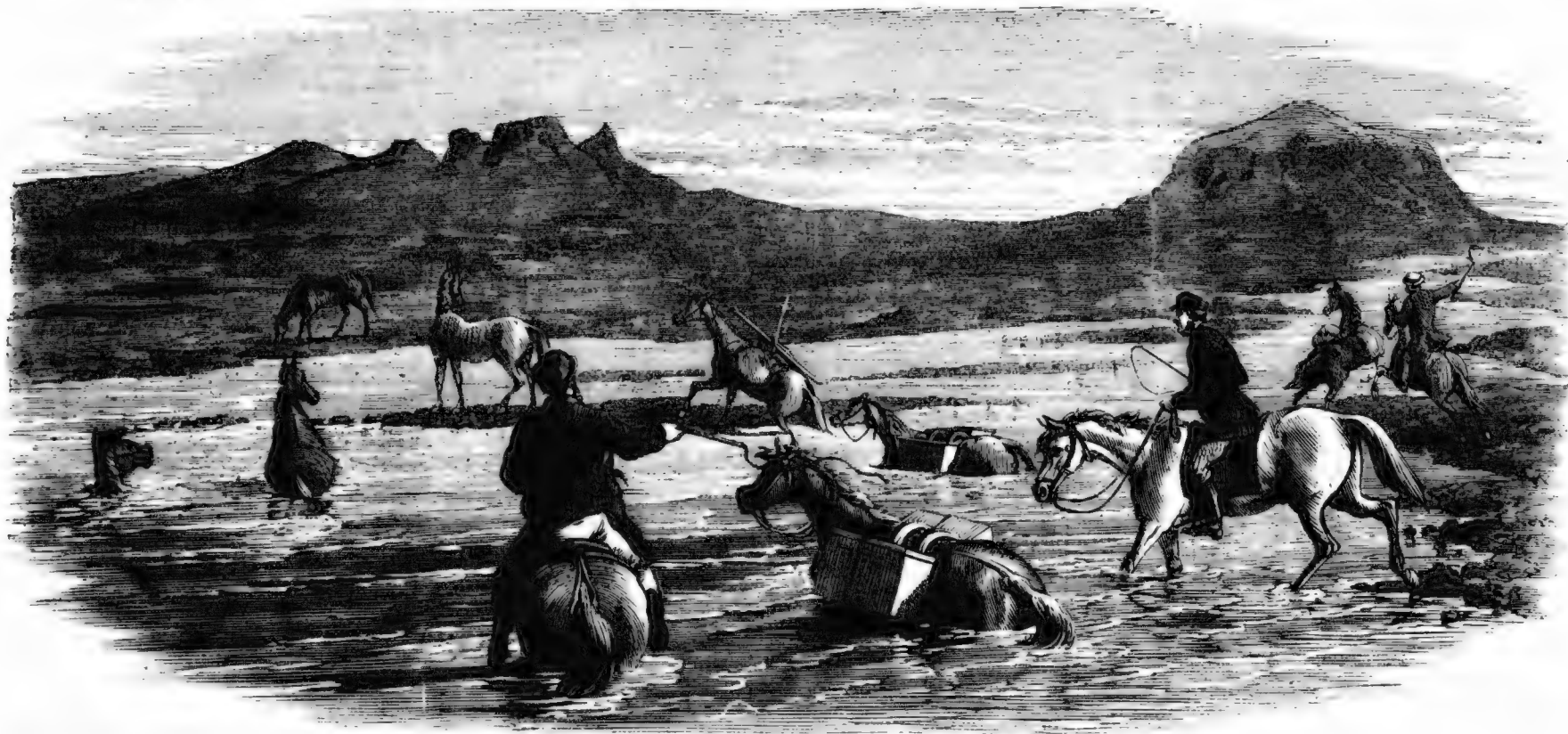
Macmillan's Magazine contains a short paper, chiefly critical, about Mrs. Gaskell; and some Oxford notes, dating circa 1827, which are of much interest, inasmuch as they take in J. H. Newman, Whately, Keble, and others. The two stories move forward very pleasantly. There is a letter from Mr. Hughes, M.P., inclosing one from Mr. Newton, of the Guilders' Association, which is very interesting; and an article by Mr. Goldwin Smith, about the Alabama. Lady Duff Gordon writes an "Additional Letter from Egypt," and the Rev. H. Whitehead enforces once more the importance of looking well at the water we drink, in an article about the Broad-street Pump in relation to the cholera epidemic of 1854. Those of us who are "up" in the subject, with a settled opinion, may find this iteration unnecessary; but it is hardly possible to repeat too often to the general public lessons like these. Mr. Reginald G. Poole's article on "Modern Commentaries" is able and well-informed, of course; but, theology being outside of my limits here, I will simply say that I agree with him about Dean Alford; don't agree with him about Professor Jowett; and, generally, think the "grammatical method," as opposed to the dramatic method, a failure.

As to the *St. James's*, I will add to my former brief allusion to it that "The Lady's Mile" is very attractive reading—a certain barrier, in particular, being very well done; that Mr. Scoffern's paper on "Artificial Illumination" is both good and pleasant; and that Mr. Gilbert is, as he could hardly fail to be, very agreeable in the "Village Doctor." There is in this magazine a brief article on "Forgotten Romances," and this is a vein which will well bear working. Might I recommend it to the industry of this writer, who ever he is? A good book of the kind would be a success.

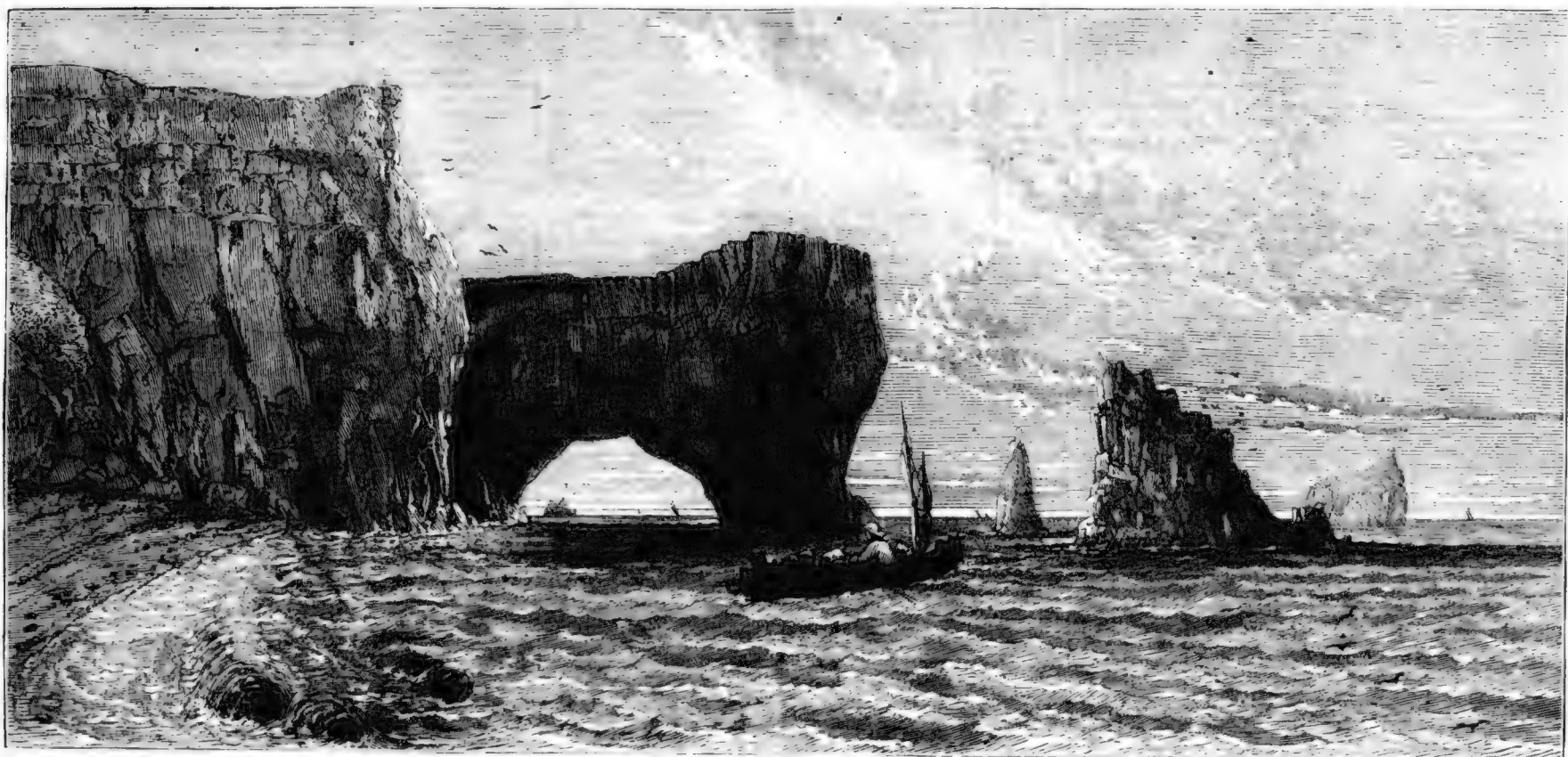
The story, by Ouida, "Under Two Flags," in the *British Army and Navy Review*, has a vigour of its own, not unattractive, and plenty of warmth, colour, and movement. I have often had occasion to say this magazine is a good one.

THE NEW YORK "HEAD-QUARTERS" of the Fenians has at length been comfortably fixed in the new "Capitol" on Union-square, and the wheels of the Government machine have begun to move. The new head-quarters is known as the Moffat Mansion, and was formerly the residence of a quack-medicine vender, who made a fortune by humbugging the people with "Life Pills and Francis Bitters." The Fenians regard this as an auspicious genealogy for their head-quarters.

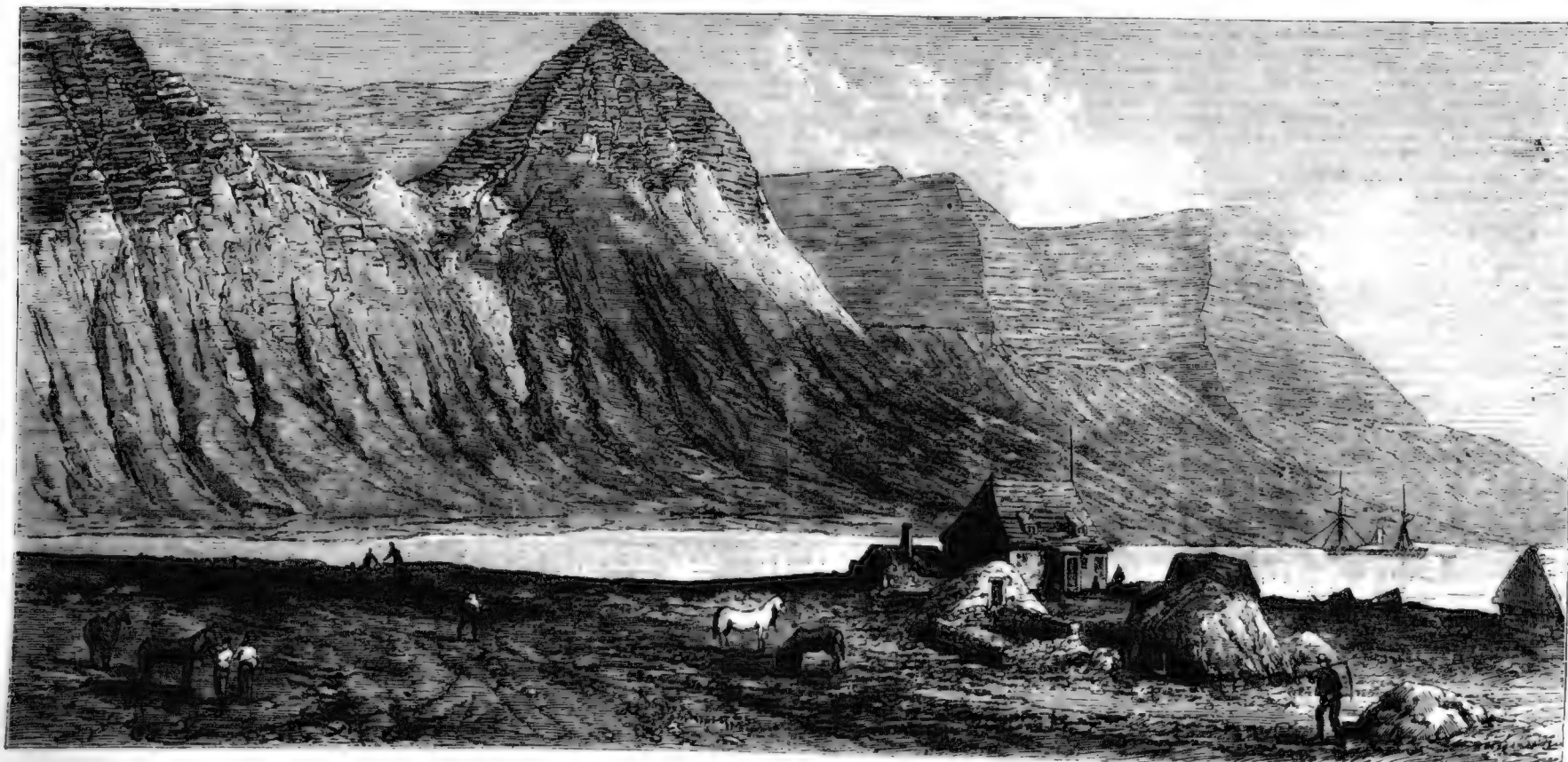
SCENES IN ICELAND. FROM SKETCHES BY CAPT. J. R. CAMPBELL.



TRAVELLERS FORDING A RIVER.



DYRHOLAR.



ONUNDARFJORD.

SKETCHES IN ICELAND.

TRAVELLERS FORDING A RIVER.

ICELAND abounds in rivers, many of them being of considerable depth and breadth, and only fordable at certain points and at particular seasons of the year. There are no bridges. The most difficult to traverse are large glacier-streams, generally, at the fords, presenting the appearance of a wide web of strong currents separated by dry sandbanks, the streams having very often shifting quicksands in their beds. The Engraving gives a good idea of the method of proceeding in general cases. The spare riding ponies and those laden with the baggage (carried in deal boxes, one on each side of the pack-saddle) are driven in first. They swim as pioneers in testing the depth, and the guides and travellers follow. Observe the pony on the left: he has blundered into a deep part, and is swimming. The travellers must avoid the route he has taken and follow a course more in the centre of the group. One horse has already gained the opposite bank, where he is lazily cropping the scanty grass he may find there; whilst the guide is chasing another pony on the right, who declines plunging into the icy stream.

DYRHOLAR.

The subject of our second Engraving, Dyrholar, is a grand natural arch pierced through a headland on the south coast of Iceland, at a place called Portland. The rock in which it occurs appears to consist of brown, gritty *tuffa*, interspersed with columnar basalt. It has a flat top, elevated some 250 ft. or 300 ft. above the waves. The span of the arch is about 220 ft., and its height over mid-tide, 100 ft., the thickness of the rock at the level of the water being 60 ft. These dimensions must, however, be received as only approximately correct, as a strong current running through the opening on the occasion of the writer's visit prevented any great accuracy in measuring the span by means of a fishing-line stretched across. The mean depth under the arch was found to be about four fathoms. Numerous islets and needles of rock, the abode of countless sea-birds, rear themselves out of the sea in the vicinity of the headland.

ONUNDARFJORD.

Our third Engraving gives a view of Onundarfjord, one of the numerous creeks or arms of the sea penetrating many miles inland between high mountains on the northern part of the west coast of Iceland. The moun-



GIPSY WATER-CARRIER OF SEVILLE.—(FROM A PICTURE BY J. PHILIP, R.A.)

tains, of trap, spring from the water's edge in steep precipices of grass and debris, surmounted by barren crags rising in a succession of bands or terraces of uniform height, and of a reddish-brown colour, separated by debris much redder than the integral portion of the rock. Those on the south side of the fjord present a nearly vertical rampart of these bands, some 3000 ft. high (i.e., judging by the eye). Their faces are seamed with numerous straight gullies. The great sameness of outline, most frequently resembling that of a truncated pyramid, broken here and there with amphitheatre-shaped hollows near its top, and the singularly formal appearance presented by the series of horizontal bands and level tops, are remarkable features in the scenery along this part of the Icelandic coast. The red brick house standing on a tongue of land in the foreground is used as a school of navigation.

THE WATER-CARRIER OF SEVILLE.

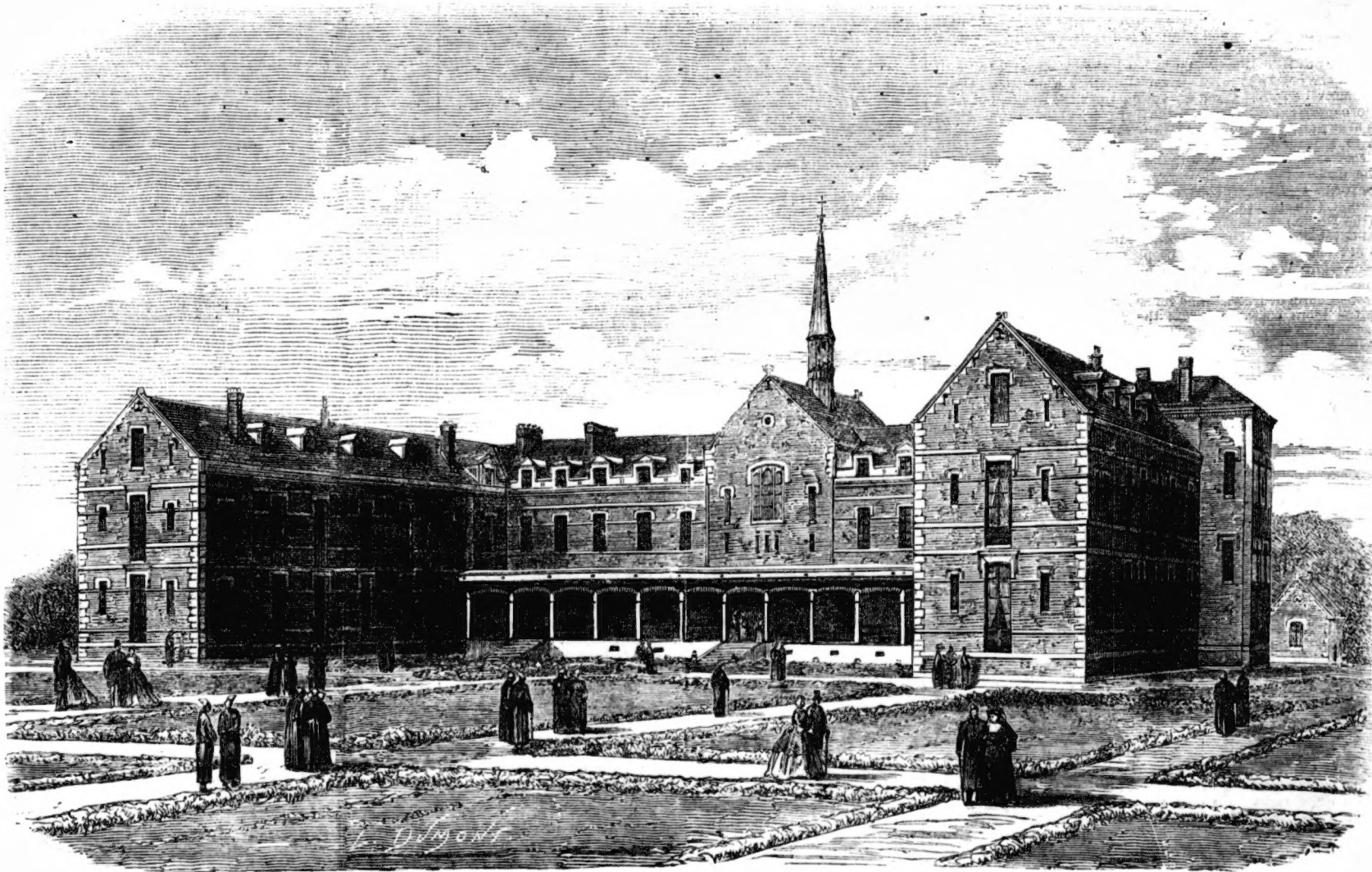
QUIEN no ha visto Sevilla
No ha visto a maravilla

says the old Spanish jingle; and surely one may say that not the least remarkable sights in that most remarkable city are the picturesque costumes of the people who are in possession of the streets, and with whose characteristics we have become more or less familiar through the pictures of Mr. Philip.

In fact, Mr. Philip is to Spain what Horace Vernet was to Algiers; and we may by a study of his pictures realise much of the land of Gil Blas and Don Quixote without ever having any actual experience of the Giralda.

Yes, these gipsy water-carriers, with their black hair gathered up and fastened with gold or silver dagger-shaped pins, their gay colours and picturesque figures, are an important element in every Spanish city—as important as the muleteers, be-sashed and be-buttoned, who sit at the tavern doors, heaving great green melons with their monstrous knives, or drinking from those wonderful bottles of a shape even more quaint than that of the water-jars.

Narrow, winding, unsavoury streets; cool, marble-pillared courtyards, all flowers and fountains, where the sound of plashing water lulls the sleepers behind those casements guarded by ornamental ironwork; public squares with the sun scorching down on the brown stones of the great water-reservoir;



THE HOSPITAL AT GISORS.

silver-buttoned, be-tagged men, mantilla-hidden women; stealthy, oleaginous priests, caparisoned mules, velvet jackets, beggars in blankets cowering at church doors, gaudy bullfighters, and every variety of itinerant dealer—these are the aspects of Seville.

The water-sellers are most prominent perhaps on the Alameda, close to the seashore. Here, as evening draws on, and the lamp-lighters begin to skim about, with their fire-tubes fastened to lance-poles, and the boys with chairs commence their preparations for company, and the parade fills with dark-eyed beauties, veiled but witchful, officers fierce but polite, priests sleek and full of calm urbanity; the military band brays on, the fans begin to wave like branches of forest trees, and the tin boxes of the water-carriers rattle an invitation to thirsty wayfarers.

THE HOSPITAL AT GISORS.

THE little town of Gisors, in the French department of the Eure, is, like many places in England, noted for only one historical event, which has never been successful in raising it into any importance. It was here that a meeting of the French and English forces took place previous to departing for the Crusades after the disaster of Peter the Hermit, and the rabble rout which followed him as far as Constantinople, and away to the front of the infidel army by which they were destroyed. Gisors was at that time a place of no reputation, and it is still almost unknown even to guide-books and to gazetteers, but it is still possible that the germ of its future renown has been created by the establishment of the institution represented in our Engraving—that is to say, the new hospital. It has been inaugurated and the chapel connected with it consecrated by the Bishop of Evreux, the principal town of the department, assisted by the Prefect of Eure and several noblemen and statesmen, who were received at the entrance of the building by the administrative committee and the Mayor of Gisors.

The hospital has been built from the plans of the architect of the Imperial palaces of Versailles and Trianon, and is of a monumental appearance, the principal front consisting of a large rectangle, in the midst of which stands the chapel, projecting from the main building; the wings and the two extremities are two aisles reached by a spacious covered gallery, which serves as a promenade in wet weather. The edifice, which is two stories high, is built over capacious cellars, and will contain beds for one hundred patients, besides accommodation for surgeons and attendants. A large and handsome courtyard is devoted to the aged and convalescent inmates, and a kitchen-garden and promenade, planted with fine trees, upon the banks of the Epte, fully complete an establishment which the Prefect of Eure characterises as a model hospital.

The building is of brick and stone, and is of a plain and unpretending appearance, more attention having been bestowed upon the internal arrangements than upon architectural effect; but the chapel is very beautifully decorated with mural paintings, in that glass medium which has already superseded the old fresco decorations.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

MIDLE, IDA GILLIES has appeared at the Royal Italian Opera with great success as Selika, in "L'Africaine." But the great event at this theatre during the past week has been the production of Auber's "Domino Noir," with Miss Louisa Pyne in the character of Angèle. Miss Louisa Pyne sing's Auber's music to perfection, and the part of Angèle is as well suited to her beautiful voice and charming style as that of La Caterina in the "Crown Diamonds," in which every one in London who cares for music must have heard her. In the romance of the first act, in the Spanish "rondo" of the second, in the grand air of the third act (of which the last movement, like the aforesaid "rondo," is not merely Spanish in character, but is absolutely borrowed from Spain), and in the lovely "chant" of the final scene, Miss Pyne was equally successful, in an artistic point of view. But some pieces are better suited for repetition than others, and the audience insisted upon hearing the charming "rondo" (of which the treatment and the whole form belong to Auber, wherever the excellent raw material came from) a second time. Mr. Haigh sings listlessly, without caring much for the rhythm of his music, and without making any great endeavours to keep in time. He is known to possess a good voice, which is one requisite for a singer, and a very important one, and in an ordinary British ballad of the Balfe or imitation Balfe pattern he is effective enough. The vivacious *spirituelle* music of the part of "Horace" is, however, not very much in his line. Mr. Patey replaced Mr. Corri (who, we regret to hear, is seriously ill) in the character of Gil Perez, and sang the "Deo Gratias" air admirably.

The production of a selection from Wagner's "Tannhäuser," at Signor Arditi's Concerts, has been attended with so much success that the director of Her Majesty's will perhaps be tempted next year to keep his promise and produce the entire work in its proper form.

According to Herr Wagner, opera has hitherto—or, at least, until Herr Wagner began to write—been altogether a mistake. Opera has no natural origin. It did not spring from the people, but from artistic caprice; and, having in the first place an unnatural origin, it has afterwards been developed in a false direction. Comparing opera to a house, Herr Wagner complains that the work of the architect has been sacrificed to that of the sculptor or upholsterer; and he declares, in a formula which has become celebrated, that "the error in this form of art consists in the fact that a means of expression (Music) has been made the end, and the end of expression (the Drama) the means." The most cursory survey of the historical development of the opera would, indeed, satisfy anyone that opera did not proceed from the people's plays of the Middle Ages, in which Herr Wagner sees "the naturally combined working of the musical with the dramatic art," but that it had its origin in the luxurious Courts of Italy. The further it proceeded in its development the more consistently did the form of the "air," which was, as yet, the only musical portion, adapt itself to the capabilities of the singers' throats, and the more consistently did the poet limit his portion of the work to "furnishing a poetical outline destined to serve no other purpose on earth than to supply the wants of the singers, the musical form of the air with the necessary words." Thus Metastasio's great reputation arose from his never causing the musician the least embarrassment, and being his "most useful and obedient slave;" and this relation of the poet to the musician has not changed to the present day.

After proving, or endeavouring to prove (the two things are not absolutely the same), that all operas hitherto produced, whatever beauties they might contain in the shape of "absolute music," were fundamentally defective as dramatic works, Herr Wagner undertook to show the German public, by examples of his own creation, what a perfect dramatic opera should be like. Of these examples the most celebrated are "Tannhäuser" and "Lohengrin," neither of which seems to us to be constructed throughout on the principles laid down in Herr Wagner's treatises. Nevertheless, there are whole scenes in both these works in which the words are so little sacrificed to the music, that there is really no music, or at least no melody, to sacrifice them to. There are other portions, it is true, in which melodies do occur, and in which the music is pleasing enough; but, in these instances, either Herr Wagner departs from his principles altogether or he writes "absolute" music, in the shape of a march, a dance, or some other piece of an incidental character. It is such pieces as these (for instance, the march in "Tannhäuser," and the legend to which the composer, without violating his rules for the production of purely dramatic music, has a right to give a lyrical character) that Signor Arditi has taken into his "selection," and which are now presented to the public as specimens of Wagner's music. Signor Arditi is quite right. He does not wish to bore the public, and he has looked through Herr Wagner's score for the most attractive pieces. But what is attractive in "Tannhäuser" is not specially Wagnerian. What is specially Wagnerian in that opera is intolerably dull.

Herr Wagner's theories are plausible enough, and will readily be

accepted—as theories—by most persons, and by nearly all poets, though by very few musicians. But to get at their true value it is necessary to test them practically—through Herr Wagner's own combination of words and music in a dramatic form on the principles laid down in his "Art-Work of the Future" and in his "Opera and Drama." A few detached pieces from "Tannhäuser" played in a concert-room will, of course, enable no one to do this.

FINE ARTS.

THE SKETCHES AND STUDIES AT THE OLD WATER-COLOUR GALLERY.

THIS exhibition of sketches by the members of "The Society of Painters in Water Colours" is one of the treats to which lovers of art look forward every winter. Somewhat of the inner life of the painter and a considerable insight into his method of working is afforded by this collection, and if it have a charm of the past it gives us promise for the future. We shall meet many a delicious passage, which we here see as it was transcribed direct from nature, in the subsequent pictures of the artist, and shall hail our old friends with pleasure.

It is therefore with regret that we notice a growing tendency to depart from the original intention of the exhibition. We observe here and there that finished pictures are passed off as sketches and studies, and the reason is obvious. Says the catalogue:—

The keeper attends in the gallery with a book containing the price (independent of the frames and glasses) of such studies as are to be disposed of, with whom purchasers are requested to leave their cards of address, and at the same time pay a deposit of twenty per cent, the remainder to be paid at the close of the exhibition.

In other words, the exhibition of sketches has become an exhibition for the sale of pictures.

Now, we cannot help thinking that the society, if it have at heart the interests of art, and is not solely instituted for the sale of pictures, would do well to prohibit sales at this particular exhibition. It should discourage as much as possible the disposal by an artist of those sketches and studies which are the notes and skeletons for his best works. The exhibition should be one interesting only to artists and connoisseurs, as giving opportunities for the comparison of styles and methods of work, or for suggestive notes of places, things, and people available for art purpose. Instead of being this, it runs a risk of becoming exactly the opposite—a gallery for the sale of the worst class of "pot-boilers."

The society will do well to study this question, and see if it cannot adopt some means of curing the evil. If not, much as we should regret such a step, it had better close the exhibition.

The collection this year is scarcely up to the average. Some of the artists who of late years have formed the chief attractions to the Society's Gallery are either not represented at all or only contribute single specimens.

Mr. Frederick Walker, who, though a young member, has exhibited some of the finest paintings in the society, sends only one small picture, "A Moss-bank near Torquay" (405), which hangs on the fourth screen. For marvellous truth of sunlight it has seldom been equalled—even by the painter of "Spring." The drawing of the old woman collecting sticks is excellent, and the force of the leaf-strewn foreground and of the vivid patches of velvet moss is worthy of Mr. Walker's reputation.

From Mr. Shields, another recent but great acquisition to the society, we get four subjects—"The Nativity of Our Lord" (115), a clever design; "Christian and Faithful in Vanity Fair" (176), a fine study; "The Orphans" (201), a very charming drawing; and "The Ploughboy's Recreation" (187), which is to tantalise baby with a bowl of milk until she screams herself purple. It is an admirable bit of homely truth. Mr. Smallfield contributes several sketches. "Two Landscape Studies" (242) are most admirable, and a "Man's Head" (377) on the third screen is finely worked—a carefully finished study which repays the labour. We cannot say so much for the "Girl's Head" (251), which, though equally well painted, fails in effect. The most striking of Mr. Watson's pictures is "A Study of a Roadside Well" (374), an exquisite transcript of Nature. Two pencil studies, "The Tailor's News" (298) and "Pictures in the Fire" (306)—which might be a portrait of Lizzie Hexham reading in "the hollow down by the flare"—are both capital in execution. Mr. Watson's illustrations in the *Shilling Magazine* had led us to fear he was forgetting how to handle the pencil; but these sketches quiet all apprehension on that score.

When we say that Mr. Boyce sends sketches in his well-known manner, our readers will understand the singularly truthful bits of nature that await them. Two views "Near Abinger" (79, 131) are faithful realisations of autumn effects, such as few can place on paper with the same power as Mr. Boyce. "A Study of St. Mark's, Venice" (82), is an earlier work, but full of promise. "Whitby Abbey" (112), "Ouse Burn, Newcastle" (175), and "Newcastle at Night" (401) will be seen with pleasure; and a study of a "Female Head" (387) with interest, if not with entire satisfaction. The roofs in "The Old Bridge and Buildings at Durham" (288) are rendered with singular truth.

Mr. Alfred Hunt sends several studies. "Durham" (28) will be familiar to those who recall the large picture. "An Ice-Scratched Hollow" (99) is perhaps a little too purple in tone, but "Dolwyddelan Valley" (173) is very poetically treated. There are some of the most charming examples of Mr. Naffel's work we have ever had the good fortune to see. He has quitted the Channel Isles for North Britain, and gives us some beautiful studies of lake and mountain. Perhaps, however, the best specimen of his style is the view of "Sorrento" (258)—a lovely picture, worthy of Browning's poem, and that is high praise.

Some very fine studies by Mr. Alfred Newton must have a word of praise. There is more of the sketch and less of the picture about them than about some we have named, and they are most effective. A view of "Venice" (95) from the lagoon is curiously good; the green depths of water in the shadows, and the silver glitter of its surface, ruffled here and there by flaws, are given boldly but with intense effect. Two studies of dead deer (165, 195) are very fine—Sir Edwin need not be ashamed of them.

We are glad to observe that Mr. S. Jackson has thrown off a mannerism which, of late, has greatly injured his work, and bade fair to damage his reputation. Although he has not quite divested himself of this fault in passages, his sketches are very good this year. "A Tale of the Sea" (225) is very fine, "the sail!" being particularly spirited and true. "Tintagel" (161) and "Afternoon" (314) show a marked improvement on his recent treatment of similar subjects.

We have only one contribution from Mr. Birket Foster this winter—a frame of "Village Girls" (385), most charming studies, full of grace, and most unaffected. Mr. John Gilbert is represented by four pictures, of which it is enough to say that they are marked by the usual faults and excellences of this popular artist. Mr. Carl Haag contributes studies of single figures painted with his accustomed *verve*, and as rich in colour as they are correct in drawing. Mr. Dodgson sends landscape studies as full of beauty as ever—one of Knole Park is especially lovely; and Mr. Tayler, according to his wont, supplies hunting groups, while Mr. Brittan Willis exhibits some of his lifelike studies of cattle, full of character and marvellous for accurate realisation of the texture of hide and fleece. Mr. Nash also remains true to his old *métier*, and paints sombre interiors and choice bits of architecture with a happy mastery of effect.

Mr. S. Palmer is represented by four pictures. Two studies in Clovelly Park (105, 111) are very fine indeed; and there is much charming fancy and great feeling for colour in his other two works.

Mr. S. Read has long since established a reputation, and we need do no more than say that the seven or eight subjects he exhibits are well worthy of it.

Our space will not permit us to do more than mention as contributors of noticeable works Messrs. Duncan, Glennie, Goodall, Lundgren, Burgess, Cox, and Rosenberg.

Mr. Jones, whose laboured ugliness and profound absurdities of design have turned the heads of half our young artists with the

notion that eccentricity is genius, exhibits, in No. 129, the first picture of his that we have seen and could admire. Since he can do work like this, his usual style is the more to be condemned as affectingly unlovely. His other pictures are, after his former fashion, ill-proportioned and unlike humanity. It is impossible to conceive a more bald and incongruous design than "The Hours" (275) described as "Waking, Dressing, Spinning, Feasting, Playing, Sleeping." Half a dozen hideous and ill-dressed women crowding on a bench in the park in cold weather do not form our notion of the Hours—the lovely daughters of Jove and Themis, the bright goddesses who presided over the seasons, and, flinging open the gates of Heaven, danced forth before the golden car of Phoebus. Let Mr. Jones study grace and beauty—let him discard the conceits which he mistakes for thought, and labour earnestly to make his pictures something better than a species of bastard glass-staining, and he may yet do something to remedy the evil which his example has wrought among our young artists.

IRELAND.

THE FENIANS.—John Clarke Luby, registered proprietor of the *Irish People*, has been found guilty of treason-felony and sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude. Before sentence was passed the prisoner delivered a long address. He indignantly disclaimed the charges of contemplated assassination, both with reference to the landlords and the clergy, and said that 300,000 Irishmen in Ireland and America would have faith in his disclaimer. The *Irish People* taught that as long as the clergy confined themselves to their spiritual functions they should be treated with respect; but when they descended into the political arena they were to be treated like anyone else. He admitted that he was guilty under British law; but he considered that no other mode of action than that which he promoted would render Ireland independent. Mr. O'Leary, editor of the Fenian organ, was convicted on Wednesday, and also sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude. The prisoner made some intemperate remarks offensive to the Court and the Crown. Alfred Aylward, clerk to Mr. Bolton, sessional Crown prosecutor for the county of Tipperary and solicitor to the Government Valuation Office, was, on Monday, charged with being a member of the Fenian Brotherhood. The prisoner, it appeared, was arrested, on Sunday night, on a charge of drunkenness, and while being conveyed to the station-house dropped a document, which the constable took up, referring to the cost of a certain number of rifles, Enfields, revolvers, and other weapons, amounting to £820. The prisoner's office was searched on Monday morning, and in it was found a large quantity of manuscripts—one a plan of revolution, how it would be carried into effect, &c., and the others essays in relation to Ireland, military tactics, &c., all signed in his own name. The prisoner was remanded.

A FORCED MARRIAGE AND ITS RESULT.—Intense excitement has been occasioned in the county Down by a tragical incident which occurred at a place called Lower Rath, in that county, a few days ago. On Tuesday week a young farmer named Patrick Gorman, who rents about six acres of ground at Lower Rath, was arrested on a charge of having murdered his wife, to whom he had only been married on the previous Saturday. The maiden name of the unfortunate bride was Mary Martin. She was the daughter of a man in the same station of life as Gorman, and had never seen him until on the 19th of last month he entered her parents' house as her suitor, introduced by her uncle, John Murphy. Another young man had been previously courting her, but her parents would not allow her to marry him; and, though she at first refused to accept Gorman, they overruled her objections, and the marriage took place on Saturday, the 25th ult. The bride accompanied her husband home; but on Monday evening she was missing. It is stated that the newly-married couple had quarrelled during the day. On that evening her father came to the house with some new clothes for her, when Gorman and his mother told him that they believed she had gone home. Her father, who knew this to be untrue, burst into tears, and left the house. It was a wild, tempestuous night, and her relatives, who were naturally alarmed for her safety, proceeded to search the country for her. About nine o'clock her uncle came to Gorman's house and asked him to join in the search; but he positively refused, and seemed utterly indifferent about her fate. Her uncle returned at a late hour next morning, and found Gorman still in bed. He again refused to join in the search for his wife, and Murphy, provoked by his heartlessness, dragged him out of bed and accused him of having murdered her. In the course of the day she was found lying dead in a gutter or water channel at the end of a field near the husband's house, with her face embedded in the sand. On being shown the corpse of his wife, Gorman displayed the same callousness which had marked his conduct all through. An inquest was held next day, and would, probably, have resulted in Gorman's commitment but for the arrival of a strolling beggar-woman, whose evidence completely altered the aspect of the case. She deposed that on Monday she went to the deceased to ask for charity. Deceased asked the prisoner if there was anything for the beggar, and he said there was not. She looked very angry and went away. The beggar-woman went away also, and soon afterwards saw the deceased walk by the drain where her body was found. The witness told her not to be lonely, but received no answer. Deceased was approaching the gutter at a rapid pace. After having spoken to the deceased, the beggar walked on a few yards, but on looking back again deceased had disappeared. She suspected nothing, as she thought she might be looking for ducks. The medical evidence showed that the poor girl died by drowning, and that there were no marks of violence on her. The jury, therefore, found "That she had committed suicide while labouring under temporary insanity."

SCOTLAND.

SHARP AND COOL.—At Port Glasgow, last week, a man named George Thomson, who had "fleeed" an Irishman of £55, was charged with gambling in a railway-carriage, between Paisley and Port Glasgow. A colloquy between Thomson and the Bench is thus reported by the *Glasgow Herald*:—"Upon the indictment being read, Provost Read said—Well, what have you to say to the charge? Panel—Well, your Honour, I have just to say that I am guilty of gambling in the train. Provost—What is your business? Are you a general dealer in cards? Panel—No, your Honour, I am a dealer in flats. Provost—Did you make any money that night? Panel—Yes; a few pounds—the matter of a £10-note; but that is nothing. Provost—The man who lost the money has said you got a £50-note instead of a £5. Panel—There is some talk about it being a fifty; but I do not think it was anything of the kind. Men are not so foolish as to hand out a fifty instead of a five. However, I will soon know what it was. Provost—I suppose you could show it now? We will be able to tell you what it is. Panel—Indeed, I cannot, because I lost it almost as soon as I got it. A party in the carriage won it from me. One of the gentlemen who travel with me has it; but the fact is, on my word of honour—ah! you may smile, but it is a fact, I have such a thing, and I pride myself on my honour—it is all a fib about it being a £50. Bailie Lang—The dupes that are taken in by you are to blame, as well as you. They play to win, and, to a certain extent, are deserving of what they get. Panel—Now, that is the right way to put it. Whoever heard tell of a man playing to lose? And when a man plays he is just as bad as we are. There is a saying that an Irishman is very witty and pretty wide awake; but, for my part, I never found it so. They, in reality, are as green as the island they come from, and should all be termed the 'green' ones. Provost—This poor Irishman has left his wife at home, but took his purse with him. You know that, I suppose? Fined 40s., with 80s. of expenses, which was at once paid. Provost—Now, my advice to you is, to give up this line of business and become an honest man. You must feel very much being placed in this position. Although you don't look like a flat, still, if you have any of the honour you talk about left, you must feel to face a man after you have done him out of his money. Panel (putting his hand in his pocket and taking out three cards)—Is there no possibility of my getting as much as will take me to Glasgow? I don't like to walk. Provost (laughing)—There is no chance of your doing anything in that line here. The walk to Glasgow will do you good, and possibly you may meet with a few flats on the road. Panel—I dare say the only flats I would meet would be the soles of my boots, and I am not flat enough to walk them off my feet. This town has a flat appearance, so there must be a good many here, and I will just wait for an hour or so. The card-sharp then left the court."

THE PROVINCES.

PNEUMATIC RAILWAY UNDER THE MERSEY.—On Friday afternoon Sir Charles Fox met at Liverpool a number of the local magistrates, town councillors, members of the dock board, Birkenhead Commissioners, and other influential gentlemen, for the purpose of explaining his plan for constructing a pneumatic railway between Liverpool and Birkenhead, under the river Mersey. Mr. E. Lawrence, ex-Mayor, presided. Sir Charles Fox explained that the principle of a pneumatic railway had been successfully tried on a large scale at Sydenham, and one was now being constructed under the bed of the Thames, between Charing-cross and the Waterloo station. The proposed railway from Liverpool to Birkenhead was a mile and three-eighths in length. There would be two stations in Liverpool and one at Birkenhead. The cost was estimated at £300,000, with borrowing powers to raise the capital to £400,000. This estimated cost would, however, be much reduced if the bed of the river were found to consist of rock instead of quicksands. It was estimated that on £300,000 the traffic would produce £30,000 a year, to pay a five per cent dividend, and £10,000 for working expenses. The speed would be at the rate of twenty miles an hour, and each train for goods and passengers could carry at least 500 passengers, who would be charged 3d., 2d., and 1d., according to class. In answer to numerous questions, it was explained that there would be no danger of collision, and the carriages, luxuriant and well lighted, would always be in plenty of fresh air. It was also explained that no opposition from "vested interests" on either side of the Mersey was anticipated. Ultimately a vote of thanks to Sir Charles Fox was moved by Mr. Robertson Gladstone, seconded by Mr. Harold Littledale, and carried unanimously, several gentlemen resident on both sides of the river expressing their high approval of the scheme.

LAW AND CRIME.

THE tyranny of the trades unions was illustrated by a case heard at Southwark Police Court. The carpenters engaged upon the building of the new Surrey Theatre struck work in order to compel the contractor to dismiss a foreman who had in some way rendered himself obnoxious to them. The contractor, pressed for time, was forced to comply and to discharge the foreman. Two of the carpenters, having had no ground of complaint, had declined to join the strike. When the others returned to work they set upon these two men, bullied and maltreated them, and threatened to throw them off a platform about 40 ft. from the ground. From the terror into which the two men were thrown, and from the simultaneousness of the sudden charge upon them by their mates, they were unable to identify more than one who had been foremost in the ruffianly outrage. Against this fellow—by name William Ellis—the charge of assault was clearly proved. Mr. Woolrych sentenced him to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour. The two complainants, it may be added, had been forced to relinquish their employment, and, of all the men employed upon the works, not a single one had the honesty or manliness to come forward to give evidence on behalf of the complainants, or to contradict their statement of the outrage committed upon them, supporting this statement to have been untrue.

One M'Shane, described as a mathematical tutor, brought an action against a Mr. Steel. The plaintiff had been introduced to Mr. Steel's family by means of a son of that gentleman, and had made use of his opportunity to induce Miss Steel to elope with him. A letter was produced in which the plaintiff (aged forty) instructed the young lady how to secure money without running the risk of getting herself given into custody by her father for theft. The couple were pursued, and M'Shane was given into custody by the defendant, but subsequently released upon giving up the address of the young lady's lodging. There was some complication about a cheque, with which the young lady was alleged to have provided herself at her father's expense; and this led to the charge against the plaintiff. The father remonstrated with his daughter as to her proposed match with M'Shane, whom he described as a drunkard. It was shown that this "mathematical tutor" slept at a common lodging-house in Fetter-lane, at 6d. per night, and that he had been described by the landlord as the worst of three hundred frequenters of the place; also that he had been discharged from employment on account of alleged drunken habits. The jury here stopped the case, saying it was only wasting time to go on with it. The Judge informed them that as justification had not been pleaded for giving M'Shane into custody, they were bound to give him a verdict. Whereupon they gave him one—damages one farthing.

A collision took place in Oxford-street between a cart and an omnibus. A boy was thrown from the cart and much hurt. An action was brought and tried, but the evidence was so conflicting that the jury were discharged in default of agreement. The case was again brought on for trial with a like result. A third time it was brought on for trial. Then, after a long deliberation, the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff—damages £50. Considering the expense of the abortive trials, the defendant will be fortunate if he escape for £200. Surely this is very like a penal infliction for the negligence of a driver. But herein lies a notable anomaly of the law. Had the charge of negligent driving been made in a criminal court, against the actual driver of the omnibus, it must have been proved beyond a doubt to secure a conviction. Here, in a civil court, there are such strong doubts that one jury after another confesses its inability to decide upon the evidence. Then, at last, a third jury is found to give a decision, right or wrong, and upon this the proprietors of the omnibus are to be mulcted in the heavy penalty above mentioned. There must be something here which cannot be altogether right. A case involved in such confusion and contradiction that two successive juries decline to decide it, surely ought, in common fairness, to be dismissed from the court, and not submitted to the chance of finding a third tribunal, possibly less cautious and judicious than their precursors.

Five medical students brought up at Marylebone Police Court deserve to be labelled and put into the College of Surgeons as curiosities of their class. They are the very last specimens of a species rapidly becoming extinct. They hold, or at least held last week, to the notion of its being a splendid joke to wrench off knockers, door handles, and bell-pulls, and then to run away. Having proceeded to carry out this long-exploited theory of antiquity, they were all caught, and so judiciously fined by Mr. Mansfield that their evening's sport cost the gang, or rather their unfortunate relatives, no less than £24 12s. 6d. Surely these students must have come from remote parts of the provinces. Medical students of the present day are usually gentlemen.

Mrs. Longworth, or Yelverton, brought an action before the Court of Session in Scotland against the proprietors of the *Saturday Review*, for damages by reason of an alleged libel. The libel alleged was a leading article, written certainly in a somewhat mordant, not to say ferocious, style. The jury, after a discussion which lasted six hours, found a verdict for the defendants. The jury may have been right in thus vindicating the freedom of the press; but whether the *Saturday Review* was also right in stepping out of his way to attack Mrs. Yelverton (or Miss Longworth) is another question.

Llanilin, farmer.—J. H. BARN, Chorley, chemist.—A. McCALLUM, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, printer.—J. BAINBRIDGE, Gateshead, grocer.—H. BLOXWICH, Birmingham, grocer.—J. MANTON, Birmingham, gun engraver.—L. LAVAN, Birmingham, J. STEPHEN, Thatcham, butcher.—T. STOREY, Manchester.—H. SMITH, Hull, bookkeeper.—J. M. TENS, Bristol, wood-turner.—J. BEACHAM, Cleveland, leather-keeper.—W. WHEATLEY, Appleton Beck, farm labourer.—F. SHAW, Sheffield, smallware dealer.—J. MYERS, Westow, joiner.—W. WELFORD, Bradford, tinmer.—F. FARROW, Maudesley, butcher.—C. OATWAY, Exeter, tinmer.—G. H. WILLIAMS, Exmouth, painter.—C. BAILEY, York, assistant to an eating-house keeper.—T. CLAY, Halifax, grocer.—B. BENNETT, Manchester, oil merchant.—L. SIEG, 30, High Bickington, farmer.—T. STOKILL, Brompton, butcher.—J. G. HAGUE, Everton, baker.—J. HANNA, Liverpool.—Sir W. MAGNAY, Heston-on-Thames.—J. S. FAULKNER, Oxford, compositor.—H. ALDRIDGE, Oxford, licensed victualler.—J. EVANS, Yalding, draper.—A. HUTCHINSON, Lambeth, brewer.—C. M. VARR, Woughton, farmer.—R. STILL, Southwick, grocer.—W. MARTIN, Birkenhead, newspaper reporter.—E. WANN, North Shields, dealer in ale.—H. LLOYD, Rhy, painter.—D. SMITH, Halesowen, cooper.—E. WHITEHOUSE, Westbromwich, chartermaster.—J. PARKINSON, Bingley, general dealer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. STARK, Glasgow, calenderer. B. EVANS, St. Andrew's, hotel-keeper.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9.

BANKRUPT.—G. TEMPLE, Middleton-road.—H. S. SUTTON, North Audley-street, carpenter.—W. WACKETT, South End of Hornchurch, Essex, hay and straw dealer.—C. H. PURKISS, Portsea, butcher.—J. BUCKNEY, Littleton, farmer.—J. MILLS, Lamb-street.—H. MARSHALL, Ball's Pond-road, commercial traveller.—L. TOMKINS, London End, Buckinghamshire, cattle dealer.—RUSSELL, Littleton, straw and manure dealer.—R. RADKIN, Brentford, oil merchant.—G. FENSON, Waltham-common, baker.—A. YOUNG, Southampton, leather-seller.—J. M. BEDWARD, Camden Town, coal-agent.—J. HOWKINS, Coventry, coal-dealer.—D. A. RAMSAY, Cannon-street, bill broker.—J. GULLIVER, Enfield, butcher.—J. ROWE, Croydon, carpenter.—A. T. RYQUIST, Yalding, draper.—W. B. HUTCHINSON, Lambeth, brewer.—C. M. SILVA, Shadwell, ship-steward.—T. KING, Lambeth, plumber.—J. M. STEWART, Tower-Hill, clerk.—J. TURNER, Stone-street, Bedford-square, fruiterer.—H. PUTTKAMER, Upper Montague-street, commission agent.—B. PAINTER, Stratford, beerhouse-keeper.—G. DAVIES, jun., Stepney, firewood merchant.—J. BIRD, Seymour-place, builder.—G. FENSON, Waltham-common, baker.—J. OATWAY, Bethnal-green, compositor.—P. J. WAITE, Mining-lane, merchant.—F. PARKES, Birmingham, spade and edge tool maker.—R. RAILTON, Durham, watchmaker. W. SPENCER, Sutton.—H. HANDLEY, Kidderminster, miller.—A. HOLMES, Falmouth, painter.—R. GRIFFITHS, Southbridge, wine and vegetable dealer.—J. MOORE, 10, St. Paul's Church-yard, Evans, Swansea, draper.—H. PARKER and J. CUPITT, Ilkeston, boot and shoe manufacturers.—J. MARKS, Plymouth, general factor.—C. HARDEY, Plymouth and Exeter, wholesale hosiery.—M. SIMPSON, Guleborough, innkeeper.—G. HEATON, Huddersfield, spinster.—T. STOKILL, Brompton, Yorkshire, butcher.—J. FOSBERIE, Rhy, innkeeper.—G. RIMMER, Liverpool, boot and shoe maker.—T. DARLEY, Sunderland, grocer.—J. WOOD, Durham, grocer.—J. BRICKNELL, Burford, licensed hawkers.—A. B. TAYLOR, Lower Broughton, agent.—T. CLAY, Halifax, grocer.—R. 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